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Volume 71, Issue 26 · www.wilcoxnewspapers.com
Thursday, December 25, 2025

No injuries reported after house fire in Plainwell

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

No injuries were reported following a house fire in the City of Plainwell on Monday, Dec. 15.

However, the house's five occupants and several pets were displaced by the incident, which took place in the 100 block of South Sherwood Avenue.

Members of Plainwell Public Safety responded to a reported structure fire after neighbors reported smoke coming from the residence.

Upon arrival, the Public Safety personnel encountered an active fire in the house. Firefighters quickly brought the blaze under control, preventing further spread and limiting additional damage to the structure.

The American Red Cross was assisting the affected residents with temporary housing and other immediate needs.

The cause of the fire remained under investigation.

Plainwell Public Safety director Kevin Callahan said this fire should serve as a reminder to other residents as to the importance of fire safety and preparedness.

"Plainwell Public Safety would like to take this opportunity to remind residents of the critical importance of working smoke detectors in their homes," Callahan said in a press release. "Smoke detectors provide early warning that can save lives by giving occupants valuable time to escape safely in the event of a fire.

"Residents are encouraged to ensure smoke detectors are installed on every level of their home, near sleeping areas, and that batteries are checked regularly."

Several agencies assisted Plainwell Public Safety on scene: the Gun Plain Fire Department, the Otsego Fire Department, the Allegan County Sheriff's Department and Allegan County Central Dispatch.

"Their prompt assistance and coordination contributed to the quick knockdown of the fire and overall scene safety," Callahan said.

A fire damaged a house on S. Sherwood Avenue in Plainwell. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Shop With A Hero takes place at Meijer in Plainwell

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

On Wednesday, Dec. 17, a host of emergency vehicles descended on the Plainwell Meijer.

It wasn't an emergency situation that brought out the first responders. Rather, they were there for the annual Shop With A Hero program.

The program, funded by a single anonymous donor, provided the opportunity for approximately 120 Plainwell Middle School students to share a "meaningful and memorable" experience with a local first responder just before Christmas break.

The evening included the students shopping alongside the public safely "Heroes" to purchase gifts for themselves and their family members.

The program, designed to ease financial stress for families while fostering positive relationships between local youth and public safety professionals, is hosted by the Plainwell Department of Public Safety.

"Shop With A Hero continues to be one of the most impactful events we host each year," said Plainwell Department of Public Safety Director Kevin Callahan. "It reflects the strength of our community partnerships and the shared commitment to supporting our local children and families."

Callahan thanked Meijer and its employees for helping to make the evening a success.

"Meijer generously provided snacks and drinks for the children and supplied wrapping paper to ensure every gift was ready for the holidays," he said.

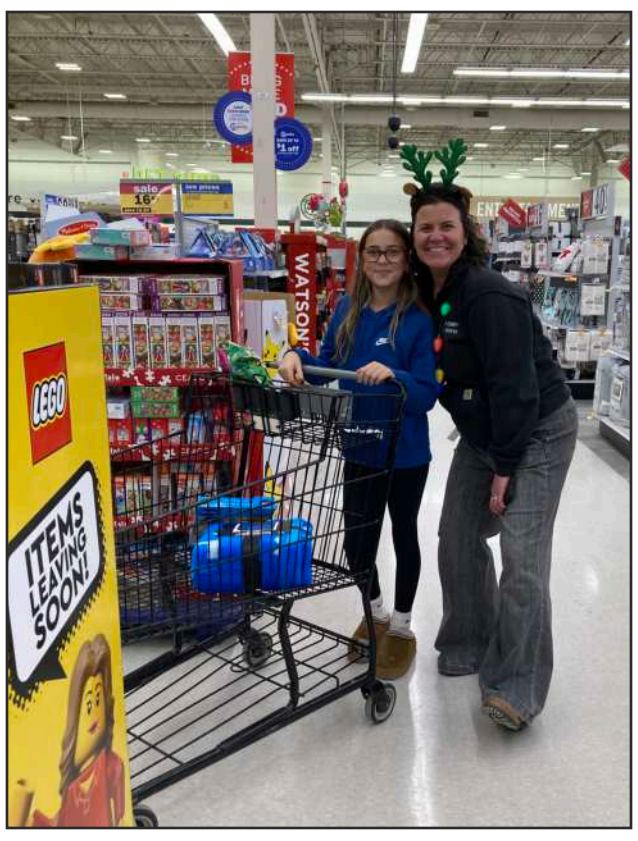
The Plainwell Department of Public Safety was honored to be joined by close to 50 personnel from numerous partnering agencies who took their time to shop with students and support the event.

Those participating agencies includes: Allegan County Sheriff's Office; Allegan County Central Dispatch; Gun Lake Tribal Public Safety; Gun Plain Fire Department; Otsego Police Department; Otsego Fire Department; Martin Fire Department; Prairieville Township Police Department; Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety; and Plainwell EMS.

Callahan also offered special thanks to Senior Pastor Kevin Smith and Friendship Wesleyan Church, which "generously served a meal to all participating Heroes prior to shopping."

"The Plainwell Department of Public Safety would also like to recognize Plainwell Community Schools, whose teachers and administrators volunteered their time to wrap gifts, ensuring each child could take home beautifully prepared presents for their families," Callahan said.

On Wednesday, Dec. 17, first responders from several local agencies teamed up with students from Plainwell Middle School for the annual Shop With A Hero program. This year, approximately 120 PMS students were able to shop with a first responder for gifts for themselves and family members. The event took place at the Meijer in Plainwell. (Photos provided)



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Home for the Holidays guides visitors to food and drink

By Gari Voss

As December rushed toward Christmas, Allegan's final Festive Friday brought visitors to Downtown for last minute shopping and to enjoy some of their favorite food and drink. Though the firepit on the Riverfront did not see a lot of action, the eateries and breweries were full. A walk around town could attest to the number of people enjoying time with family and friends.

The best way to get from one great restaurant or brewery to another on a cold Festive Friday evening is by the Holly Jolly Trolley. Assistant City Manager Parker Johnson made numerous loops around Allegan on Fri., Dec. 19, 2025, to make sure visitors were able to visit their favorite shops and establishments.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

The Origins of Christmas Traditions

Many of the Christmas traditions observed each December trace their roots back centuries, shaped by a blend of religious observance, folklore, and cultural customs that evolved over time.

The celebration of Christmas on Dec. 25 dates back to the early Christian church, although many historians note the date was also chosen in part to coincide with existing winter festivals observed across Europe. These midwinter celebrations often focused on light, renewal, and hope during the darkest days of the year, themes that remain central to modern Christmas observances.

The Christmas tree, now a centerpiece in many homes, is believed to have originated in Germany during the 16th century. Evergreen trees were seen as symbols of life and endurance through winter. The practice spread throughout Europe and later to North America, gaining widespread popularity in the 19th century. Early trees were often decorated with candles, fruit, and handmade ornaments, a tradition that has since evolved into today's elaborate displays.

Gift-giving, another hallmark of the holiday, has both religious and cultural origins. In Christian tradition, it reflects the gifts presented to the infant Jesus by the three Wise Men. Over time, gift exchanges also became associated with St. Nicholas, a fourth-century bishop known for secret acts of generosity. His legacy eventually inspired the modern image of Santa Claus, shaped further by folklore, literature, and advertising.

Holiday music and caroling also have deep roots. Medieval Europeans sang songs during seasonal celebrations, and by the 19th century, Christmas carols became popular in churches and public gatherings. Many well-known carols were written during this period, blending religious themes with messages of peace and goodwill.

Decorations such as wreaths, holly, and mistletoe date back even further, originating in pagan traditions that viewed these plants as symbols of protection and vitality. Candles and lights, once used to ward off winter darkness, now illuminate homes and streets throughout the season.

While customs have changed and adapted over time, the enduring appeal of Christmas traditions lies in their shared symbolism. Whether religious or secular, these practices continue to bring families and communities together, carrying centuries-old meanings into the present day.

We at the Allegan County News, Commercial Record, and Union Enterprise, extend appreciation to the families, churches, and community groups who continue to preserve the traditions that define the Christmas season; and hope all that celebrate have a very Merry Christmas!

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H & R Block
Hopkins Propane
James Brandess Studios & Gallery, Inc
Kabri Martyniek / State Farm Insurance
Ken Bleeker Insurance
Mark Bekken / Saugatuck Harbor Insurance
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Tammy Kerr / Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate
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Wrays

Even after the prime time dinner hour, Schaendorf's Brewery was still full of customers enjoying family, friends, good food and favorite drinks.

While the eateries around Allegan were full of diners, Stephanie Redmon and her students shared their musical talents with families and friends. Many pieces were Christmas related, and afterward, everyone enjoyed one another with conversation, congratulations and food.

Even with all of the action around Allegan, Santa could be found at City Hall listening to the wishes of children.

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Allegan City Council approves split of Girl Scout Property — housing, conservation

By Gari Voss

At their December 22, 2026 meeting, the Allegan City Council continued moving forward with the development of the previous Girl Scout Property while looking forward to 2026 tasks of Strategic Planning and goal setting along with Budgeting.

ORDINANCES & SCHEDULING

The Allegan City Council held their first reading of Ordinance 533 that allows for the addition of a licensed plumber to Section 29-73-Testing and scheduled a second reading and public hearing for January 12, 2026. EGLE requires that the city have a licensed plumber check the back flow device. Therefore, the Cross Connection Control Plan (CCCP) and water ordinance must be reviewed and aligned to state law. A second reading and public hearing was set for January 12, 2026.

The adjustment of Ordinance #533 was simply to delete, "Only individuals that hold an active ASSE 5110 tester's certification shall be qualified to perform such testing." And add, "All backflow prevention assembly testing must be performed by a licensed plumber who holds an active ASSE 5110 certification."

REPORTS

Downtown Development. Review of the December 2025 Downtown Development Authority Meeting Minutes.

DDA discussed the recent Open House that reviewed 2026 construction projects, especially the Downtown streets. The DDA discussed the Downtown holiday decorations. Suggestions were made for updating decorations and making improvements in 2026. The Business Resource subcommittee met to discuss their role and goals. The Downtown Master Plan was reviewed with options for vision statements based on the board's input and suggestions in August 2025. City Manager Joel Dye reminded the Council that this is an area specific Master Plan for just the vision of Downtown. It does not define the City's Master Plan, but later there will be a review to determine how it aligns with the City's Master Plan.

Planning Commission. Councilmember Patrick Westover reviewed the December 2025 Planning Commission Meeting Minutes. After City Manager Dye reviewed the 2025 Planning Commission Annual Report, the report was approved. Additional discussion ensued regarding housing in the city and how this aligned with the city's Master Plan. Specifically, the 3-story apartment building slated for Lowe Street was discussed along with other vacant parcels. The Commission would like to see an updated map of vacant parcels. In addition, the Commission would like to have a presentation of the Downtown Development Plan when it is complete. Dye reminded the Commissioners that there would be a Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting on January 5, 2026.

Water Utilities

The Council approval PO 26-0845 to Kennedy Industries in the amount of $35,450 for the rebuild and reinstallation of a RO3 high pressure pump. A city worker noticed that a strange vibration was coming from the RO2 pump and found there was a problem with the propellers because of the damaged bearings. The pump requires repair before being reinstalled. Mayor Pro Tem Peter Hanse inquired whether there is vibration testing done to determine problems before major repairs are required. Interim Water Utilities Director Zachary Kortz shared that there is some testing done, but the last test on this pump did not indicate a problem when checked.

Administrative Services

Payables & Payroll. The request to approve accounts payable in the amount of $354,203.11 and payroll in the amount of $133,302.08 for a total disbursement of $487,505.19 was approved.

Lot Split. The request for approval of a lot split for parcels 03-51-200-016-00 and 03-51-235-004-00, formally the Girl Scout Property, was discussed and approved.

The city has been working with the Allegan Development Company, LLC, and the developer has been working with the Allegan Conservation District to donate the land along the river to the Allegan Conservation District. To complete the action, there must be a split of the parcel. Upon review of the map of the two parcels, the Council understood that the southern section marked "Remainder" of the southern parcel would be given to the Conservation District while the northern section of the parcel would be developed into housing units. The Council had to approve the split before the land transfer could occur.

Agreement Amendment. The decision of the parcel split led to a discussion regarding a request to amend the Purchase and Development Agreement with Allegan Development Co., LLC. City Manager Dye shared that the Development Co. had ticked off all of the requirements of the Purchase and Development Agreement except for securing a performance bond. The original agreement required the securing of the bond prior to closing. The company would like to amend that to "before work begins" or "before securing building permits" rather than at the close of the sale. The insurance companies and financial institutions contacted would like to see some movement on the project before providing the security bond.

City Manager Dye explained that the purpose of the security instrument is to have a pool of money from which the city can draw should the developer back out of the agreement. The security instrument allows the developer to complete other pieces like the transfer of the parcel to the Conservation District. 12C of the original agreement would be adjusted to indicate that it be attained before securing building permits and not at closing of the sale. The company would like to close by the end of the year for the purchase price of $100,000 that was previously agreed upon.

PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE.

The Council approved the public meetings schedule presented for calendar year 2026. May 26, 2026, is a Tuesday to take into consideration Memorial Day. Other than that, the meeting dates remain on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. Of greater interest may be the meeting times of the many committees, authorities, and commissions.

Airport Advisory Committee. The Airport Advisory Committee meets at 5:30 PM on the first Monday of each month unless otherwise posted. Meetings are held at the Allegan Airport, 740 Grand Street, Allegan, Michigan.

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. The Allegan City Brownfield Redevelopment Authority meets at 8:00 AM on the third Tuesday of each month as needed unless otherwise posted Meetings are held in the Conference Room of the Allegan City Hall, 231 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, Michigan.

Downtown Development Authority. The Allegan City DDA meets at 8:00 AM on the second Wednesday of each month unless otherwise posted. Meetings are held in the Council Chambers of the Allegan City Hall, 231 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, Michigan.

Public Space Commission. The Public Space Commission meets at 6:00 PM on the second Wednesday of each month unless otherwise posted. Meetings are held in the Council Chambers of the Allegan City Hall, 231 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, Michigan.

Planning Commission. The Allegan City Planning Commission meets at 6:00 PM on the third Monday of each month unless otherwise posted. Meetings are held in the Council Chambers of the Allegan City Hall, 231 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, Michigan.

Zoning Board Of Appeals. The Zoning Board of Appeals meets as needed. Meetings are held in the Council Chambers of the Allegan City Hall, 231 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, Michigan.

Riverfront Design Committee. The Riverfront Design Committee meets as needed. Meetings are held in the Council Chambers of the Allegan City Hall, 231 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, Michigan.

Wellhead Protection. Wellhead Protection meets as needed. Meetings are held in the Council Chambers of Allegan City Hall, 231 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, Michigan.

Budget FY26 & Goals. City Manager Dye wanted to review and discussion of 2026 budget schedule and council goals. The Council must discuss their goals each year. What Dy had noticed is that the goals looked stagnant and just were basically repeated from year to year. With that in mind, he began brainstorming different ways that the goals could be stated.

The process that is usually followed is to meet with Department heads on Friday evening then meet on Saturday to determine goals. These Strategic Planning sessions lend themselves to budget setting. Knowing that the bids for the improvement projects are not due until the middle of February, Dye suggested that the budgeting session not be scheduled until the end of February. During previous meetings, department heads have been presenting their accomplishments and needs. During January and February, Dye would continue updating the Council on sections of the budget. Thus, they could review the budget more closely in late February or early March. This also would give Dye an opportunity to work with the new department heads.

In the end, it was decided that the bids would be opened and approved by mid-February. February 28, 2026, would be the Budget Meeting. This would include breakfast with department heads, and a review of the budget to follow. In March, the fees will be reviewed. April 8th will be the 1st review of budget, and May 15th, the budget must be approved

Possible Vision for Goals. Dye shared that he thought about a different format to envision the goals using ideas from a previous meeting. During that meeting councilmembers and staff were asked to respond to several questions. What do we want to accomplish today? How will we accomplish this? List the core functions of the City. What is missing? What is Allegan? What do you want Allegan to be? List Four Dreams to be accomplished in Ten Years. List 4 immediate actions for 2026.

Safe Community – in line with thoughts to protect person and property, and take comfortable walks around town at night, the goals might just have the thoughts "Allegan protects residents, businesses, and visitors by ensuring safety and security for people and property."

Growing Community – earlier, councilmembers shared a desire to have a community that was not stagnant and would attract private investment. Maybe goal could include, "Allegan strategically leverages available tools to attract private investment and support sustainable growth."

Stewarded Community – to reflect the desire to be responsible at maintaining the community, the goals might include, "Allegan responsibly maintains and improves City-owned assets to ensure long-term quality and value."

Welcoming Community – to meet the desire to be welcoming, the goal might include, "Allegan is a community for all, delivering public services in an inclusive, accessible, and equitable manner."

Optimized Community – earlier discussions expressed a desire to have solid governance, so the goal might include, "Allegan operates as a well-governed, fiscally responsible organization committed to effective and transparent service."

Dye stated that the conversation needs to continue to develop statements that will lead to action. Some like the idea of having a special meeting to concentrate specifically on goals and Strategic Plan. The meeting with department heads can still be valuable to hear what they envision funding for the next year. The councilmembers voiced that there won't be a lot of capital money to do any projects except Rossman Park, the Downtown Streets and Grand Street. The water projects have already been planned. So, most of the budget schedules are defined.

Feb. 16, 2026, will be a special meeting to approve the project bids.

Feb. 28, 2026, will be a good time to envision during breakfast with department heads then move into budgeting.

The Jan. 23 & 24, 2026 meetings are cancelled.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

The Council approved the reappointment of various board members whose members terms end with the calendar year. There are still openings on several of the boards, commissions and committees.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A thought was expressed about postponing the performance bond for the Allegan Development Co., LLC. There was concern that the company could pull out trees and level off the land then leave without completing the development. It is hoped that the city will do more digging into the required performance bond.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Dye wished the council a happy holiday and thanked them for being such a cohesive team of leaders.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Mayor Pro Tem Hanse asked that the website be updated with the information about committee members then joined the other members in wishing everyone a happy holiday.

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Community Events

EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!

Old Jail Museum – Holiday Hours: Fri., Dec. 26 & Sat., Dec. 27' 2025, 10am-4pm.

Mon. – Sat. 5-9pm: Warming Station when temp below 32 degrees - Good Shepherd 101 N. Walnut, Allegan

Contact Camp Kidwell for Winter Camp, Dec. 28, 2025-Jan. 1, 2026. 269 521-3559 ASAP

Thurs., Dec. 25, 2025: Free Christmas Dinner. First Congregational Church 323 Cutler St., Allegan

Fri., Dec. 26, 2025, 9:30pm: Chitty Chitty Bang Bang The Regent Theater 211 Trowbridge St. Allegan

Sun., Dec. 28, 2925, 8:30am-2:30pm: Red Cross Blood Drive St. Margaret's Church 766 S. Farmer St. Otsego

Wed., Dec. 31, 2025, 5-9pm: New Year's Eve Adventure Party. Allegan Event 439 River St. Allegan

Wed., Dec. 31, 2025, 5-9pm: New Year's Eve Adventure Party. Allegan Event 439 River St. Allegan

Thurs., Jan. 1, 2026: Free New Year Day Dinner. First Congregational Church 323 Cutler St., Allegan

Until Jan. 4, 2026, 5:30-11pm: Veenstra Christmas Lights. 2187 132nd Ave. Hopkins.

CURRENT EVENTS

Tues., Dec. 23, 2025, 1pm: Grief Support Lunch
Salvino's, 1290 M-89, Plainwell
Wings of Hope invites all to come and connect.

Thurs., Dec. 25, 2025: Free Christmas Dinner
First Congregational Church 323 Cutler St., Allegan
3:30-5:30pm: Pick Up Take Out Meals
4 – 5:30pm: Come in and Dine

Fri., Dec. 26, 2025, 9:30pm: Chitty Chitty Bang Bang
The Regent Theater 211 Trowbridge St. Allegan
Celebrate Dick VanDyke's 100th birthday with a ride down Memory Lane.

Sun., Dec. 28, 2925, 8:30am-2:30pm: Red Cross Blood Drive
St. Margaret's Church 766 S. Farmer St. Otsego
Schedule at https://www.redcrossblood.org/ or drop in to donate blood, platelets, blood cells or more.

Mon., Dec. 29, 25 – Jan. 1, 2026: Camp Kidwell Winter Camp
Camp Kidwell 39000 1st Ave. Bloomingdale
Sign up for Overnight Camp or Day Camp and enjoy winter activities, crafts, music, games, fort building, campfires, and a New Year's Eve Party plus more. Go to campkidwell.org/special-event.html or call 269 521-3559 ASAP.

Wed., Dec. 31, 2025, 5-9pm: New Year's Eve Adventure Party
Allegan Event 439 River St. Allegan
Purchase tickets at alleganevent.com for a fun-filled evening of high ropes, zip rails, climbing walls, games, prizes, buffet, and even the outdoor Sky Tour Zip. After the fun, travel to the Riverfront for the New Year's Celebration, Ball Drop, and Fireworks!

Wed., Dec. 31, 2025, 8pm-midnight: NYE! New Year's Eve Celebration
Downtown Allegan will host an outdoor event featuring massive fire pits, food trucks, hot drinks, live music by Trixy Tang!, a silent disco, ice skating rink, and Michigan's Largest New Year's Eve Ball drop with fireworks at the stroke of midnight.

Thurs., Jan. 1, 2026: Free New Year Day Dinner
First Congregational Church 323 Cutler St., Allegan
3:30-5:30pm: Pick Up Take Out Meals

Mon., Jan. 5, 2026, 3:30pm: Teen Game Day
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
Grades 6-12 can join in the teen area for an afternoon of gaming with friends!

Tues., Jan. 6, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime for 0-2 year olds.
4pm: Tween Advisory Board (TAB). All grades 4-7 are welcome to share and plan.

Wed., Jan. 7, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10am: Sensory Play Day. Ages 0-7 can gather for an hour of fun in the sensory bins.
6pm: Pintesting: Cricut Snowflake Mug. Register at 269 673-4625 to enjoy an evening of making mugs.

Thurs., Jan. 8, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Preschool Storytime. 3-5 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.
3:30pm: Teen Art Hangout. -Grades 6-12 can drop in to make DIY Doorhangers.

Mon., Jan 12, 2025, 6pm: The Art of Ink
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
Step into the world of body art and craftsmanship! The exhibit will feature contemporary art. The exhibit will follow with a reception at Tantrick Brewing.

Tues., Jan. 13, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime. 0-2 year olds can listen to stories and do activities.
5:30pm: Book & A Movie – *Crazy Rich Asians*. Come and enjoy the movie and discussion.

Wed., Jan. 14, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
2pm: Recess for Adults. Come and interact with friends from the Arc of Allegan.
6pm: Water Conservation Workshop. Explore the ecology of the Kalamazoo River Watershed.

Thurs., Jan. 15, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Preschool Storytime. 3-5 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.
4pm: Teen Advisory Group – TAG. Grades 8-12 can drop in and enjoy snacks while chating about favorite things.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

ASSISTANCE

Addiction Support Group, Thursdays 7-8pm
1900 Lincoln Road, Allegan
Come as you are.

Adventist Community Service Center
218 S. Farmer St. Otsego Tues. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 1-5pm
Clothes for the family and household goods are available, layettes for newborns, clothing, diapers, toys, etc. for babies to 6 mo. For emergency needs, call 269 694-4775 or Marlene 269 217-8293. This is supported by the 7th-Day Adventist Church and an ACCF TAG Grant.

Allegan County Community Action - Assistance for daily living
23 Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.communityactionallegan.org, (269) 673-5472
Food, weatherization, early childhood education.

Allegan Homeless Solutions - Helping eliminate barriers to housing.
108 Grant St., Plainwell MI 49080
www.alleganhomelesssolutions.org, Email: info@alleganhomelesssolutions.org

The Arc of Allegan County - Advocates for people with disabilities
219 Hubbard Street, Allegan 269 673-8841
Mission to advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

Baby Closet – Newborn Clothing and Supplies
Diaper Closet – monthly diaper program
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street Allegan
Call 269 673-2254 and leave a message.

Christian Neighbors - Food, Education, Emergency Financial Assistance
282 12th Street Plainwell MI 49080 (269) 685-4166
Monday: Drive-thru only - 10am-12pm and 4pm-6pm.
Tuesday: In person shopping/walk ins - 10am-12pm
Thursday: In person shopping/walk ins - 2pm-5pm
We have been providing services to the Plainwell, Otsego and Martin areas since 1983.

Community Clothes Closet – Free Clothing and More
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street, Allegan (269) 673-2254
Open Fridays, 10am – 1pm A wide selection of clothing for all ages is available.

Grief Support Groups
Wings of Hope invites all to a welcoming and compassionate gathering. 1st Monday of the month – 6-7:30pm, Wings of Hope Office, 530 Linn St., Allegan; 2nd Tues. of each month – 12:30-2pm, United Methodist Church, 322 Maple St., Hopkins; 3rd Monday of each month – 3-4:30pm, Ransom District Library, 189 S. Sherwood Ave., Plainwell; 4th Tues., Grief Support Luncheon, 1pm, Salvino's 1290 M89, Plainwell.

Interfaith Sunday Services
Mothers Trust is a nonprofit that is offering inclusive, interfaith worship services open to all Sundays at 11am at 6676 122nd Ave. Fennville. Information: Megan Hybels 269 312-0369, megan_h@mothertrust.org

Love, Inc.
Love in the Name of Christ 4621 135th Ave. Hamilton
For assistance with food, personal care items, baby needs, household items, clothing, appliances, furniture, bicycles, laundry, showers & Life Skills Wrap Around Care, call 269 751-2533. Visit www.loveincnwa.org., email: office@loveincnwa.org.

People Helping People of Pullman
Assistance by appt. 269 236-6295

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center - Abuse Prevention and Healing
404 Sherman St., Allegan, MI 49010 www.safeharborcac.org, (269) 673-3791

St. Vincent de Paul-St. Margaret Conference - Food and More
St. Vincent de Paul 124A W. Allegan St. Otsego
Mon.: 1-3pm Tues. & Thurs: 10am to noon Wed.: 3-5pm
Food pantry and limited financial aid. Dtvincentdepaul9005@gmail.com
Serves Otsego, Plainwell and Martin School Districts

Sylvia's Place - Safe from Domestic Violence
Crisis Line: 269 673-8700

United Church of Wayland - Free Clothing
1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 4 - 6pm
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

Wings of Hope Hospice & Palliative Care - End of Life Care
530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.wingsofhopehospice.com, (269) 686-8659

FOOD

Allegan Food Pantry
Church of God, 1313 Lincoln Rd., Allegan
Monday: 10 am–1pm; Tues.: 2–7pm; Fri. 1-4pm Curbside Service
Contact: Phone: 269 686-6369
Deliveries are made to homebound senior citizens.

Christian Neighbors, SE
282 12th St. Plainwell 269 685-4166

Christian Neighbors, Wayland
122 Church St. Wayland 269 792-2870

Congregational Kitchen - Thursday Dinner Pickup
Congregational Church 325 Cutler Street Allegan
Call (269) 673-3139 after 3pm any Thursday and place an order.
Thursdays: Pick up 3 to 5:30 pm. Takeout dinners only during COVID-19

Epiphany Lutheran Church
4219 Park Land Dorr 616 681-0791

Food Truck - 3rd Friday of each month, 4:30 - 5:30pm
United Church of Wayland
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

The Hands of Grace Food Pantry
United Methodist Church, 409 Trowbridge St., Allegan 269 673-4236
Tuesday: 9-11:45 a.m.; Wednesday: 9-11:45 a.m. and 5-7 p.m.; Friday: 10-11:45 a.m.
Food Pantry serves FOOD to residents of Allegan 49010 w/valid ID with current address ONLY.

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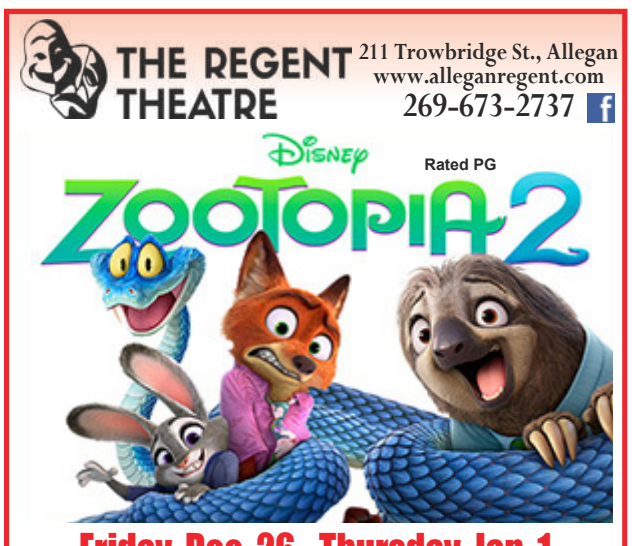
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www.alleganregent.com
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Community Events

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 Maple St. Hopkins
269 793-7340

Hungry for Christ
4565 135th Ave. Hamilton, 269 264-1307 x1000

Ladders of Hope USA - Food Assistance
717 East Main St, Fennville, MI 49408, www.laddersofhopemi.org., 269-686-6456

Martin Area Resource Center
1445 10th St, Martin (269) 672-5605
No appointment needed. Pick up by one person per household.

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St. Martin 269 672-7097

Mobile Food Pantry, 2nd Monday of the Month: Drive Thru Food Distribution
Casco United Methodist Church 880 66th ST, South Haven MI 49090
Pantry items a pre-packaged. Limit - one box per vehicle.

Project Hope
1808 143rd Ave. Dorr
616 681-4673 appt. only

The Vine Food Pantry / Love, INC
Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave, Allegan, MI · (269) 673-2329

Wayland Farners Market
Apr. – Oct. Wed. & Sat.
Downtown Wayland

FUN FOR THE FAMILY

Bingo!, Wednesdays, 6pm: American Legion Hall

Senior Bingo!, Tuesdays from 1-3pm: American Legion Hall
Corner of Eastern Avenue and Hooker, Allegan

Allegan District Library, M-Th 10am-8pm, F 10am-5:30pm, Sat.10am-4pm:
Plus, Carnegie Corner Bookstore (Friend available on Tuesdays)
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard Street, lower level Allegan (269) 673-4625

Allegan Event – Ropes Course, Walls and More
439 River Street Allegan
Twilight Special: Thurs., 4-9pm, 2hrs. for $18
Free Game Card: Fri., 4-9pm w/ $20 food purchase
Family 4-Pack: Sat., 5-9pm, 4 premier combo tickets w/pizza+ for $130
For more information call 269-430-3961 or check online at https://www.alleganevent.com

Allegan County Historical Society, Old Jail Museum.
Saturdays, 10 am – 4 pm, (269) 673-8292. Call to confirm hours or arrange for a private tour.
Email: oldjailmuseum06@yahoo.com Webpage: www.alleganoldjail.com

Bear & Fox Yarn Den
Bear & Fox 141 Brady St. Allegan
Tues. 2-8pm; Wed.-Sat. 11am-5pm; Sun.-Mon closed
Enjoy beautiful yarns and classes or Tuesday Stitch Night.

Iron Bridge Quilters - Thursdays, 10am-2pm
Blessed Sacrament Church 110 Cedar St. Allegan
All ages and levels of expertise are welcome. Create a piece for yourself, for a friend or for a charity. Contact Claudia at acrasmussen5@gmail.com or (269) 673-4579 for more information.

Rivertown Fitness for All Ages and Families
Rivertown Gym & Fitness, 739 Airway Dr. Allegan. Check on the Core and More class. Call Todd at 269 686-7900 or email rivertowngym@gmail.com for additional information.

Scouting: Allegan has a variety of scouting opportunities. Each group is meeting in different ways to stay safe.

Cub Scout Pack 3026: Grades K-5. Call Cub Master Ron Gunter ron.f.gunter@gmail.com

Boy Scouts BSA 91 (boys 11-17 yrs.): Contact Scout Master Rob Keen 269 568-0435, eckeen1112@gmail.com

Girls Troop BSA 191 (girls 11-17): Contact Sara Keen sarajkeen@gmail.com.

Senior Fitness/Fit Over 50: Fun fitness designed for ages 50-80plus!
Hicks Gym, 311 E Plainwell Street, Plainwell. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9am. Drop in or call Sharrin at 269-330-3204 or email at denzgirllc@att.net.

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Family, giving spirit make Christmas special

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX

■ PUBLISHER ■

As I get older Christmas had taken on a different meaning, than when I was young.

I still remember waking up at dawn and running down the stair steps to see what Santa had left me under the Christmas tree. Each holiday season was truly a joyous occasion, as my siblings and I opened up presents that included the latest toys and technological wonders.

Now I could care less. Christmas now means a time to spend with those same siblings that through life's twist and turns you see far less often than you would like. It is also a time to give to others.

Last Saturday was just one of those magical times, I was able to break bread and enjoy conversation with two sisters and a brother. I call it magical because it was the first time in several decades that no children or grandchildren were invited. It was just the five of us (actually four, my youngest sister was unable to make it- stuck in Florida with an ailing husband) and our spouses.

It was magical, because instead of spending time chasing the grandkids around the house, we sat down for hours catching up on what everyone was up to- a new house for my brother, a cruise from one sister, and a new car for another. More importantly we were able to boast about the glory days, as Bruce Springsteen would call them, when I was a gifted athlete, and my sisters' were excellent scholars.

We haven't had the opportunity to do that in many years. Don't get me wrong, sons and daughters and grandkids are very fun to have around, but this was so awesome, being able to conjure up life as it was several years ago, with the people you are the closest to and will forever be.

Family is important. If you have had the privilege to see Clint Eastwood's "The Mule", he lived a life that didn't much include family. He was estranged from his wife and daughter until he began running drugs as the ripe age of 88, realizing he wasn't immortal and suddenly yearned to be with his family more than anything else in life. He lost dozens of years with family in a trade-off for business, only to discover at the end of life, family was more important than any business.

It is also important, however, to give to the less fortunate. Whether it be at a soup kitchen on Thanksgiving or Christmas, or adopting a family to provide presents or food to, giving is more important than receiving.

For the past several years we have asked readers in need to write us at several of my newspapers during the Christmas season. Some of the letters will bring tears to your eye. You really have no idea how some people in your community survive. Some survive without heat, others without food or shelter. It is a darn shame that any family in America should have to live like some of our neighbors do.

As I write this I am proud to say, thanks to the generosity of area businesses and several concerned individual contributors, I am writing checks to dozens of families so that they can provide for their children during Christmas. All told, we will probably send out nearly $15,000 to these families. I can't thank those businesses and individuals enough, who have helped us provide. You are truly an inspiration to me and I can tell you unequivocally that the families on the receiving end are very grateful.

I pray that each and every one of you have a Merry Christmas. Remember family and remember to "help thy neighbor."

Life as Performance Art

G CORWIN STOPPEL

Right after Christmas, in the heart of the winter break from Lincoln Elementary School, my father "invited" me to spend a day or two with him working at his store.

"Invite" was given in a tone of voice that made it clear this was not a "would you like to?" message, but a command performance. It was another of his Father and Son activities.

My job was to do the annual inventory of everything in every nook and cranny of the building. I was to count, then carefully print the name of the merchandise and number of components.

"And as long as you're up there on the ladder, you might like to dust the shelves. Just don't raise too much dust," he would add.

I smiled and said, "sure," even though it was a lie. I didn't want to be there; I wanted to sleep in, watch "Captain Kangaroo" and "Axel's Tree House" on TV in the morning. Then, when the soap operas came on and actors did a lot of "mushy" stuff, I would play.

Not a chance any of that would happen, especially for a son whose father's motto was "work is the best kind of fun."

I went to work, pencil over my ear until I recorded something in a little notebook that came from the Funk's Seed Co. It was fun for a good 20-25 minutes, then boring. I had to make my own fun, which included listing the store cat (named "Cat") when it was snoozing in the front showcase window.

Sometime later when the cat relocated itself to another site, I wrote it down again. Father was not impressed with my dedication to counting *everything*. Later, when Mother was putting these names and numbers to work, she wanted to know why Father was hoarding two cats.

This went on for several days, interrupted only by being invited to take the snow shovel and apply it to the sidewalk, or hauling trash paper next door to the Ace Hardware where Axel augmented their furnace by burning stuff in the basement.

Or, late in the day when things were quiet, I "might like" to go down to the basement to our own furnace to use a long-handled broom to tease coins customers had dropped through the floor grating right in front of the cash register. He was always hoping to find a rare one, like a 1909 VDB-S penny. I never did.

At long last I finished my work, Father approved the notebooks filled with names and numbers, then called me into his office to pay me for the work. I got six whole dollars for each day's work. With it came the story about how when he was my age he got paid a dollar a day.

Yeah, right, Dad. That was back in the log cabin and covered wagon days, when you walked four miles through waist-deep snow, uphill both ways, to go to school, and when your evening entertainment was listening to the wolves just outside your family's log cabin, and the great Dakota Sioux warrior, the fierce Ink-pa-doodle, still lived in the woods just outside of town.

That last day, the two of us walked down to our family's bank. One year I spotted a nickel on the sidewalk and pointed it out to Father. "Well, pick it up." I objected that it was dirty, wet and cold. That didn't matter, so I picked it up and put it in my pocket.

At the bank, old Mr. Lester Fiegel, the president and a retired no-nonsense staff sergeant during the Great War (1917-1918), invited me into his office so we could talk. It seems Father had made arrangements for me to open a Christmas savings club account.

Before I caught on to what was happening my four five-spots disappeared into the vault. In return I got an official Christmas club bank book, and we shook hands.

I was now well on my way, according to Mr. Fiegel, to becoming a Captain of Industry, and if I just applied myself to studying hard and saving even harder, good things would happen.

Wow. I also got to keep the one-dollar bills for my very own. On the walk back to Dad's store he said, "I'm proud of you, and I know you're going to want to put those bills into your piggy bank." As I figured it out, I had worked all that time for exactly the five cents I picked up off the sidewalk.

I thought then I had a rough life growing up. I mean, a father who taught the value and virtue of work, saving, investing and even picking up an errant nickel off the sidewalk. When I grew up I got a lot smarter, well, at least somewhat smarter.

It seems to me we have lost some of those old-time traditions when it comes to money, especially when it comes to thrift, saving and frugality. Nobody hands it to us, then just keeps doling it out like it was a birthright. No chance. We have to work for it. The sooner we learn it, the better.

At the time, I wasn't happy about having those five-dollar bills swiped by Mr. Fiegel and deposited into our bank. I didn't have any immediate plans for it, but whatever they might have been, locking them away in a thick steel vault was not on the list.

The funny thing is that after a few days, I forgot about them. Once back in school, I was too busy trying to learn my "times and goes-into-tables" The only thing I remember is Mrs. Snesrud saying something about money that goes into a bank gets multiplied.

As for the singles I folded up and squeezed into my piggy bank, I really didn't miss them either. By the time I opened it, it was so stuffed with bills and coins we had to use a butter knife to lure them out. And sure enough, Dad went through the pennies, still looking for the elusive 1909 VDB-S.

As a culture, we are leaving the idea of saving and thrift in the rear-view mirror, along with delayed gratification and hard work. It is not a good thing. Someday, perhaps a graphic artist will create a comic book about a character who thought reading his monthly statements was the best kind of fun. He or she would be a real role model.

In part, it is understandable. Putting money into a savings or checking account is not going to earn much more of a return that tucking it under your mattress.

The only difference is that it is safer, and sufficiently out of sight so that we can't "borrow" from it in a squanderous spree.

Worse, the last penny has been minted, and what was once a childhood tangible token of saving will be gone. I hear there's a move afoot to get rid of all cash, and we will use cards and digital transactions in the not-distant future.

That is an emotional and economic train wreck waiting to happen. There is something very real about coins in our pocket or a quart glass jar, plus bills in our wallet. We know how much we have and the limits to our spending. No cash, no more spending. Money is real; cards and digital exchanges are too ethereal for us, and not just for Boomers.

Mary Poppins was right with that spoonful of sugar idea. When we make a job, even a hard one, a bit of fun, it's a snap. We have to making saving fun again. We need to recapture that feel-good dopamine of activities that give us immediate gratification.

A glass jar steadily filling up with coins is a good example. We feel good seeing we are accomplishing our goal. The better we feel, the more we want to continue doing it so we can have another fix when we add more coins.

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Shopping in town helps local shops, cafes and restaurants, and the business owners who make them unique! When you shop local the whole community benefits.

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The Allegan COUNTY NEWS

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4 P.M. Monday

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Obituaries

Mary Jo (Kelly) Duffey

Mary Jo (Kelly) Duffey

Mary Jo (Kelly) Duffey passed unexpectedly with family by her side on December 17, 2025. She was born to her late parents Leo and Mary (Anderson) Kelly on January 28, 1953, in Holland, MI. Mary shared 49 years of marriage with Dennis Duffey who passed in 2021. She helped found and operate Nature's Market in Holland, MI, then went on to manage at Oosting Furniture until retiring. Outside of work, family was everything to her, especially quality time and watching movies with her two grandsons.

She is survived by her children Brian (Sarah Huber) Duffey and Rebecca (Ryan) Miller and Cheryl Fett, siblings Kathleen (James) Dettling, Larry (Olga) Kelly, Christine Kelly, Diane (Kim) Slayer, and Theresa (Dan) Heorig; grandchildren Tristan and Liam Duffey; cousin Rose Stuck, brother-in-law Mike Duffey and sister-in-law Diane Lewis.

She is preceded in death by her husband Dennis Duffey and parents Leo and Mary (Anderson) Kelly.

Benjamin L Woodhams

Benjamin L Woodhams age 74, passed away November 25, 2025. Ben was born in Allegan, childhood time in Richland, MI before the family moved to Chicora. Ben graduated from Allegan High School and Michigan State University.

He worked for Allegan County Road Commission for over 30 years and enjoyed meeting people all over Allegan County. He also was a part of the Trowbridge Township board and Planning Commission.

He is survived by his wife of 38 years , Susie (Weaver) Woodhams. His children Jennifer (Mark) Haveman, Becky (Corey) Johnson, Kelly (Nick) Short Bosk, Brandy (Will) Salters, and daughter in law Lisa Woodhams. His siblings are Carleen (Woodhams) French, Bill (LuAnn) Woodhams, sister in law Capie Woodhams, twenty-two grandchildren, five great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by parents Carlton and Ann Woodhams, brother Ken Woodhams, son Justin Woodhams ,in laws Paula (Nate) West and other loved ones.

In accordance with his wishes cremation has taken place and he will be laid to rest in Blackman Cemetery. A celebration of life is being planned for spring 2026.

In lieu of flowers please make a memorial donation to Camp Kidwell.

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The Allegan County News

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NOTICE

Iron Mountain Towers, LLC proposes to build a 199-foot Lattice Communications Tower. Anticipated lighting application is medium intensity dual red/white strobes. The Site location is 142nd Avenue, Wayland, Allegan County, MI 49348 . Lat: 42-43-41.8, Long: -85-40-17.1. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Antenna Structure Registration (ASR, Form 854) filing number is A1349614. ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS – Interested persons may review the application (www.fcc.gov/asr/applications) by entering the filing number. Environmental concerns may be raised by filing a Request for Environmental Review (www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest) and online filings are strongly encouraged. The mailing address to file a paper copy is: FCC

Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. HISTORIC PROPERTIES EFFECTS - Public comments regarding potential effects on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Trileaf Corp, Lisa Skeens, l.skeens@trileaf.com, 1821 Walden Office Square Suite 500, Schaumburg, IL, 60173, (630) 227-0202 ext. 554.

NOTICE

2026 DORR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING DATES
Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. at the New Dorr Township Complex. 1683 - 142nd Ave

January 22	July 23
February 26	August 27
March 19	September 24
April 23	October 22
May 28	November 19
June 25	December 17

2026 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING DATES Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. at the New Dorr Township Complex. 1683 - 142nd Ave.

January 20	July 21
February 17	August 18
March 17	September 15
April 21	October 20
May 19	November 17
June 16	December 15

2026 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting Dates
Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. at the New Dorr Township Complex. 1683 - 142nd Ave
Tentative Dates

March 3
June 3
September 2
December 2

2026 DDA MEETING DATES
Meeting starts at 6:00 p.m. at the New Dorr Township Complex. 1683 - 142nd Ave

January 12
March 9
May 11
July 13
September 14
November 9

2026 BOARD OF RVIEW MEETING DATES
Held at the New Dorr Township Complex 1683 - 142nd Ave

March 3th at 11am
March 9th from 9am to 12pm and 1pm to 4pm. You can meet with the Board of Review by calling 616-681-9874 ext. 105 to make an appointment, or you can protest your assessment by letter.
March 10th from 2pm to 5pm and 6pm to 9pm. You can meet with the Board of Review by calling 616-681-9874 ext. 105 to make an appointment, or you can protest your assessment by letter.
July - TBD
December - TBD

2026 CITIZENS ROAD COMMITTEE MEETING DATES
Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. at the New Dorr Township Complex 1683 - 142nd Ave

January 14
April 8
July 8
October 14

2026 PARKS COMMISSION MEETING DATES
The meetings start at 6:00 p.m. at the North Park Pavilion.

January 12	July 13
February 9	August 10
March 9	September 14
April 13	October 12
May 11	November 9
June 8	

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Naloxone vending box installed on riverfront

By Gari Voss

The Allegan City Council approved the installation of a Naloxone Vending Box in the Riverfront Restrooms during their December 8, 2025, meeting. The new box was installed by Ross Buitendorp of tbdSolutions on December 22nd. This is not the first box that has resided in the restroom area since the city had previously provided a box in this location, but this box is a collaboration between the City of Allegan, OnPoint Allegan, and the Grand Rapids Red Project.

Jeana Koerber, Chief Operating Officer of OnPoint, explained that the box would be funded by OnPoint through the State Opioid Response Grant 4 (SOR4), and the intranasal naloxone would be stocked by The Grand Rapids Red Project. City Manager Joel Dye inserted that when the OnPoint box is installed, the existing box will be given to the Allegan Area Fire Department.

The reason why OnPoint chose the riverfront location rested on the fact that it has public access with high foot traffic. By placing the naloxone close has the possibility of reducing the delay in overdose response because it provides easy access in an emergency situation.

The OnPoint program through the SOR4 project is not the only one in Michigan. Koerber stated, "The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has the Community-based Naloxone Distribution Through Vending Machines program that has placed 55 naloxone vending machines in jails, in treatment centers, with probation/parole offices, with harm reduction agencies, and in other public spaces in 35 counties. These machines have dispensed over 20,000 naloxone kits."

Officials credit increased naloxone availability via vending machines and other distribution as part of the decline in opioid deaths statewide. This was especially true in Dearborn, MI, where a naloxone vending machine at the train station had dispensed 8,000 units in two years.

A new Naloxone Vending Box has been installed by tbdSolutions in the Allegan Riverfront restrooms thanks to the State Opioid Response Grant 4 (SOR4) received by OnPoint Allegan and a collaboration with the Grand Rapids Red Project. Photo: Ross Buitendorp

In addition, the statewide overdose deaths have been declining. Michigan overdose deaths fell from 2,998 in 2022 to 2,826 in 2023. This is about a 5.7% decrease, and the rate of decline is faster than national averages. The data sources suggest that vending-machine-style distribution in public places is already working in Michigan.

The riverfront box would fall in line with the Allegan County Health Department Building that operates under this same model as the current proposal. Naloxone has been safety and effectiveness that is intranasal, thus, needle-free. This reduces the risk of needle-stick injuries, fear or stigma around needle use, and simplifies administration by bystanders or non-medical persons.

The data from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) showed that deaths from drug use was at an all time high in 2022 with about 110,000 deaths of which 76% were related to opioid use. A sharp downward trend occurred in provisional data showing there were about 87,000 overdose deaths between October 2023 and September 2024. In short, 2023 data demonstrated the first annual decline of about 25% that was followed by a 27% decline in overdose deaths in 2024. Preliminary data indicates a continued decline in 2025. The good news was tempered because overdose remains the leading cause of death for Americans from 18 to 44. Thus, it is important to remain vigilant.

The CDC attributed the reduction to several factors, but a leading factor related to the distribution of Naloxone because this medication can reverse an overdose. Added to the decrease factors were better access to treatment for substance use disorders and an increase in prevention and response programs.

The beauty of Naloxone rides on the fact that it has no harmful side effects if taken when not necessary. Any side effects to Naloxone are minimal when administered in an overdose situation.

The restrooms are open until 11pm, so there will be few barriers to access. With the assistance of the Grand Rapids Red Project restocking the vending machine, the nasal medication will be available.

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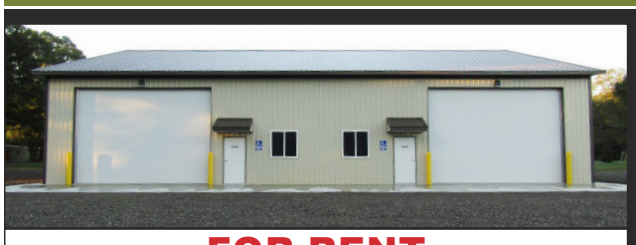
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Allegan Conservation District named best in 2025

By Gari Voss

The announcement was made by the Michigan Association of Conservation Districts that the Allegan Conservation District (ACD) earned Michigan's 2025 Conservation District of the Year award. The award reflects ACD's growth from a part-time administrator and one agriculture technician to a staff of seven supporting traditional soil conservation programs on farms, invasive species management, habitat improvement work, and other conservation programs across Allegan County.

Mark Ludwig, Chair of the District's Board of Directors, credits the dedication of tenacious staff and board members who weathered hard times to grow the District's services, "We've been blessed with some talented individuals who have worked to build partnerships across the County and fund high-impact conservation projects."

Those projects included:

The District's Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) grant working with nearly 200 farms addressing environmental pollution risks.

A water quality study to identify the causes of harmful algae blooms in Cheshire Township lakes.

The erosion prevention work on susceptible crop fields along the Gun River.

Current enrollment is open for the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program

The Allegan Conservation District received Michigan's 2025 Conservation District of the Year award. The Michigan Association of Conservation Districts was impressed with the projects undertaken by the Allegan staff and the new facility where staff members can offer a wide variety of activities and workshops. Pictured: Brian Talsma (Executive Director), Kannon Hoffman (MAEAP Technician), Jason Cass (Conservation Technician), Norveig Olson (Education Coordinator), Nathan Hilbrands (Watershed Technician), and Ari Henson (Restoration Coordinator). Not pictured Alison Peterson-Loll (Administrative Specialist) or affiliate staff Ben Savoie (District Forester) and Patrick Gordon (Produce Safety Technician). Photo: courtesy of ACD.

Over the last two years, ACD has been able to move into their own facility. After moving into their new building during April 2025, the staff held its Grand Opening on July 19, 2025. Allegan Conservation District's new headquarters impressed the MACD selection committee. The District gained the capacity to offer a wide array of new services, equipment and education opportunities.

In 2025, there were programs and workshops offered across the county:

May 7th ~ Tree of Heaven Workshop at Modales Winery

May 10th ~ Birding with the District at the Armintrout-Milbocker Preserve

May 31st ~ Spring Native Plant Sale

June 7th ~ Lake Allegan Carp Derby

June 10th ~ Environmental Book Club at the Allegan District Library

June 18th ~ Mushroom 101 Workshop

July 24th ~ Composting 101 Workshop

July 31st ~ Mushroom 102 Workshop

August 14 ~ Bioblitz & Nature Walk at the Rabbit River Preserve

August 28th ~ Ash Basket Weaving with John Pigeon

September 11th ~ Mushroom 101 Workshop (reprise)

September 20th ~ Fall Native Plant Sale

September 25th ~ Woody Invasives Workshop

September 30th ~ Birding with the District at the Armintrout-Milbocker Preserve

October 14th ~ Environmental Book Club at the Allegan District Library

November 18th ~ Watersmart Landscaping 101

November 25th ~ Drones and Cover Crops Workshop

The schedule for 2026 is already filling with:

The Spring Seedling Sale pre-orders that began on January 5th for pick up on April 25th.

The January 15th beginner Beekeeping Workshop with Don Lam.

The February 5th Cultivating Resilience Winter Conference.

The February 25th Real Estate Information about Land Easements.

Coming, the Native Plant Sale will be May 30th.

"The passage of a County-wide millage in 2020 has been a game-changer for the Conservation District," says Ludwig. "Our grant-based efforts are important, but they can be inflexible, for example being limited to a specific watershed. With millage funds, we can address local priorities quickly and county-wide. Grant applications often need matching funds. Millage funds remove that barrier and allow us to go after larger grant opportunities."

Two new, millage-funded staff positions will offer landscape restoration services and a wider range of educational workshops in the new year. Most recently ACD hired a new Education Coordinator, Norveig Olson. Norveig graduated from Northern Michigan University with a B.S. in Fisheries and Wildlife Management plus a minor in Native American Studies. Before joining ACD, she worked with the National Park Service in Michigan, New Mexico, and most recently Washington. Much of the work she's done has been to bring people and their homes back into the fold of nature.

"We've spent the last few years working hard to create a place where residents can get help with any conservation need," says Ludwig. "We're so grateful for the trust given to us by our constituents, and we hope to continue setting the standard for locally led conservation in Michigan."

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Book Review: Stitching Freedom

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The seams are textbook straight. You made sure of it.

There'll be no need for a thread-ripper for you. No, you planned before you picked up a needle, and you were careful with each poke of the thread. A few snips here, a quick tack there, and you'll be done. As in the new book "Stitching Freedom" by Gary Tyler (with Ellen Bravo), this project almost took a lifetime.

Growing up in St. Rose, Louisiana, Gary Tyler tried to avoid major trouble. He says he was often the victim of racism in school, though, and he didn't put up with it so he ran afoul of authority now and then. On the day he was suspended for "causing problems in the classroom," he wasn't worried; he considered it another day off.

He didn't know that it would be his last day of freedom for more than forty-one years.

After wandering around awhile, visiting with

"Stitching Freedom: A True Story of Injustice, Defiance, and Hope in Angola Prison"

by Gary Tyler with Ellen Bravo

288 pages

friends and a cousin, Tyler went back to the school that day, where an altercation on a bus ended in the death of a white teenager. Tyler was there, but he wasn't involved; witnesses confirmed it, before telling different stories at trial, then recanting. Still, he was arrested for the murder, taken to jail, tried, and sent to Angola Prison, sentenced to die by electric chair.

Still a teenager, Tyler was careful who he befriended in Angola, keeping away from trouble and finding mentors in the OGs who'd been there awhile. With their guidance, he learned things he hadn't known, legal terms, how to find the right lawyer, how to raise money and get by. They corrected his grammar and his thinking. They taught him how to present himself. He learned the value in service, and he became a prison seamster.

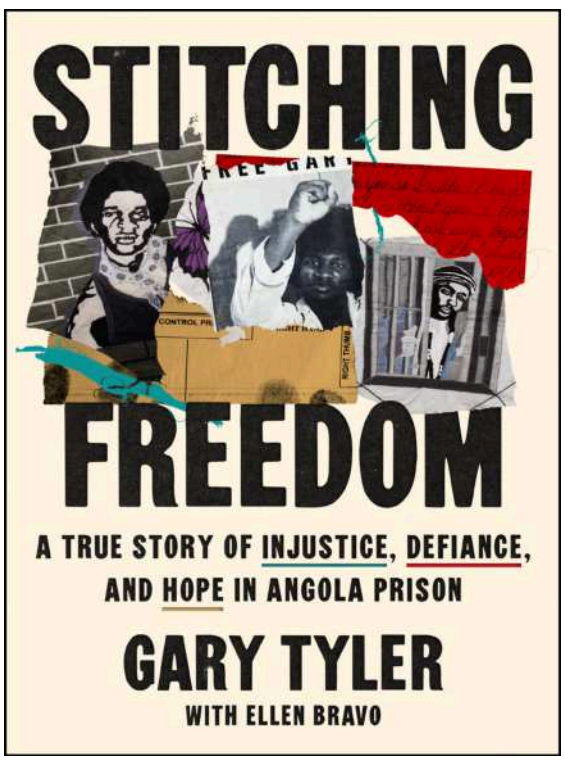
Tyler says he knew prison would be bad, but despite that he knew other young men who'd been there, he underestimated how bad it would get. And he never would've believed he'd find men who'd become his family and who'd save his life.

Crime features big in the news lately, doesn't it? You could be forgiven if you're feeling fatigue from it, but check out "Stitching Freedom." Here, the crime is racism.

Surprise: you won't get the sense that author Gary Tyler needed a halo; no, he admits to being a bit of a rascal sometimes, with rather typical teen behavior before his incarceration. This honesty stretches: he also presents believable, abundant evidence that despite his proximity to where the crime occurred, he didn't do what he was accused of doing. Through that account and beyond, he shows readers how racism kept him down, and how he kept his hopes up and his head high.

"Stitching Freedom" isn't scary or particularly scared-straight-ish, and there's a bit of humor at the end in Tyler's post-prison memories of learning about modern life. That means you can read his story yourself, and feel comfortable giving it to a teenager who needs it. Find this book, and then watch your time get all sewn up.

All the books the Bookworm reviews here are available at the sponsor of this column:the Allegan District Library



New equipment helps West Michigan airport

By John Raffel
Correspondent

Former Allegan County Commission chairman James Storey point out in his weekly newsletter that keeping the runway clear and safe during West Michigan winters is critical to maintaining reliable service for the aviation community.

This December, the board approved the purchase of a 2005 Oshkosh Sweepster to our snow removal equipment fleet, enhancing our ability to rapidly clear snow from runways during heavy weather events," Storey said.

"This investment supports year-round accessibility for the businesses and pilots who depend on the airport, helping ensure that emergency medical flights, corporate travel and general aviation operations can continue safely even in challenging winter conditions."

Storey added: "The future of aviation arrived at West Michigan Regional Airport this year. After breaking ground in June, our two multimodal electric chargers from BETA Technologies are now operational, positioning us as part of a foundational charging network across Michigan.

"Made possible through BETA's $2.6 million Advanced Aerial Mobility grant from the State of Michigan, these chargers support both next-generation electric aircraft and ground vehicles. We're one of four Michigan airports selected for this infrastructure project, joining a growing network designed to reduce costs and emissions while increasing operational reliability.

This technology supports the work of aviation partners and positions our region at the forefront of sustainable aviation development. We're ready to serve the changing needs of the aviation community as electric aircraft technology continues to advance.

"Whether you need routine maintenance or an unexpected repair, having reliable aircraft maintenance nearby matters. Tulip City Air Repair brings comprehensive maintenance services right to West Michigan Regional Airport.

"Tulip City Air Repair handles everything from scheduled inspections to aircraft-on-ground emergencies. Their experienced team's commitment to safety and customer service means pilots can trust their aircraft is in capable hands."

Fennville City

The City of Fennville City Commission has passed Resolution 2025-20, NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE REVENUE BONDS AND NOTICE OF RIGHT OF REFERENDUM TO THE ELECTORS, RESIDENTS, AND TAXPAYERS OF THE CITY OF FENNVILLE AND CUSTOMERS AND USERS OF THE CITY'S PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM

TAKE NOTICE THAT the City Commission of the City of Fennville, Allegan County, Michigan (the "City"), intends to authorize the issuance of NOT TO EXCEED Three Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($3,500,000) City of Fennville Revenue Bonds (the "Bonds") pursuant to the Revenue Bond Act, Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended (the "Revenue Bond Act"), and the Home Rule City Act, Act 279, Public Acts of Michigan, 1909, as amended (the "Home Rule City Act"), for the purpose of defraying all or a portion of the cost of certain improvements to the City's water system, including, but not limited to, (1) the construction/installation of a new municipal water well, (2) the replacement of approximately 2,600 feet of water main, and related equipment and appurtenances, (3) rehabilitation of a water tower, and related equipment and appurtenances, and (4) replacing certain lead and galvanized water lines, as well as making other necessary and related improvements to the City's water system, and paying engineering and financing costs (the "Project"). The Bonds may be issued by the City in one or more series, the aggregate principal amount of which will not exceed $3,500,000. The Bonds will be payable solely or primarily from revenues derived from rates and charges received from users and customers of the City's water system, and will be payable in not more than thirty (30) annual installments at an effective rate of interest to be determined upon sale of the Bonds, payable on the unpaid principal balance from time to time remaining outstanding on the Bonds. The total cost of the Project is currently estimated to be Three Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($3,500,000), all or a portion of which cost is to be paid from the proceeds of the Bonds.

SOURCE OF FUNDING

The State of Michigan, through its Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, makes funds available for municipal water system improvement projects at a below-market interest rate through a Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund administered through the Michigan Finance Authority. The City will seek to finance all or a portion of the entire project cost through bonds issued through said Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund. Pursuant to the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund, there is a possibility that a portion of the principal amount of the proposed bonds would be forgiven, and the City would not be required to repay that portion of the bonds. At this time, the City anticipates that approximately $577,800 of the principal amount of the proposed bonds could be forgiven from repayment. However, the State of Michigan, through its Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, has not provided the City with any assurances at this time that it will be granted loan forgiveness for any portion of the bonds' principal amount, so it is uncertain whether any principal amount of the proposed bonds will ultimately be forgiven.

SOURCE OF PAYMENT OF BONDS

THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS shall be payable from the net revenues derived from the operation of the City's public water system remaining after payment of operation and maintenance expenses. Said revenues consist of rates and charges for services, including connection fees, which rates and charges are required to be maintained and increased from time to time in order to provide sufficient revenues to meet expenses for operating and maintaining the public water system, anticipated principal of and interest on bonds, and to provide reserves for payment thereof. A schedule of the rates and charges is on file in the office of the City Administrator of the City of Fennville, Fennville City Hall, 124 S. Maple Street, Fennville, Michigan 49408.

ADDITIONAL SECURITY – FULL FAITH AND CREDIT PLEDGE

In the event that (1) the Bonds are sold to the Michigan Finance Authority, and/or (2) certain state or federal financing is received for the project costs, the City would be authorized pursuant to the Revenue Bond Act, and/or the Home Rule City Act, to pledge, and may decide to pledge if determined necessary and/or advisable, its full faith and credit for the repayment of the Bonds. In this event, the City would be authorized within its constitutional, statutory, and charter tax rate limitations to levy such taxes or advance such funds from the general funds of the City as may be necessary to prevent or cure any default in the repayment of the Bonds resulting from an insufficiency of revenues derived from the operation of the City's public water system. Although it is not anticipated that the City will ever be required to advance funds, the City would, in the event of an advance, be entitled to be repaid from the next public water system revenues available after correction of any deficiency or default.

NOTICE OF RIGHT OF REFERENDUM

THIS NOTICE is given pursuant to the requirements of the Revenue Bond Act and theHome Rule City Act. If within forty-five (45) days from the publication of this NOTICE OF INTENT to issue Bonds a PETITION signed by not less than TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS residing within the limits of the City of Fennville shall have been filed with the City Clerk requesting a REFERENDUM on the question of the issuance of the Bonds, then the same shall not be issued until approved by the vote of the majority of the electors of the City qualified to vote and voting thereon at a general or special election. The current number of registered electors in the City is 1085

Further information regarding the Project and the Bonds described herein is available at the office of the City Administrator of the City of Fennville, Fennville City Hall, 124 S. Maple Street, Fennville, Michigan 49408 (phone 269-561-8321).

Dated: 12/15/2025

Samuel Jacobs
City Clerk
City of Fennville

Faces in the Crowd

By G C Stoppel

With Christmas now underway, this week's question: What is your favorite Christmas movie or television program?

-Woman at a gas station on M-89: "Well, it used to be White Christmas until it disappeared a few years ago, and I'll be @#$$^&^ if I am going to pay for it on cable!"

-Woman with her: "Oh, I'd forgotten about that one. The one I like is Christmas Vacation because it's got a great line, 'It's the holidays; we're all suffering!' Or something like that. That's my story, too."

-Man in front of the Blue Goose Restaurant: "This may sound strange, but I like that cartoon 'Charlie Brown Christmas.' You know how everything he wants to do goes wrong, and he ends up with this little tree with one ornament on it, and someone tells him, 'And that's the meaning of Christmas, Charlie Brown.' Yeah, it is. It really is."

-Couple at the Fennville grocery store: Man: "We only watch Christian stations, and we like their big Christmas services." Woman: "They're so powerful and inspiring. Too bad a lot of people don't see God's power in the mega-churches."

-Two women at the Allegan Public Library; First one: "Well, don't tell anyone who I am, but I love the Hallmark Christmas movies. Boy meets girl, they fall in love, have some sort of problem to over-come, and end up being together. I'm all for love." Second woman: "No kidding; you must be. I don't see how you can watch them. They're all the same. You see one and you've seen them all."

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Notice of Public Hearing

Monterey Township
Planning Commission

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to PA 110 of 2006, as amended, (the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act) the Planning Commission of Monterey Township will hold Public Hearings to deliberate the following topics on Monday, January 12, 2026 at 7:00 p.m., at the Monterey Center United Methodist Church located at 3022 130th Ave, Allegan, Michigan.

1. An application for special use from TRC, interested party, to construct and operate a proposed ground mounted solar energy and battery energy storage system, pursuant to Section 10.47 of the Monterey Township Zoning Ordinance, upon the following parcels within Monterey Township:

Owner Name	Parcel Number and acreage	Address (or location if unaddressed)	Legal Description
Zachary Reurink	16-025-003-00, 63.8 ac.	South Side of 128th Ave. East of 26th St.	NE 1/4 NW 1/4 EX N 248.5 FT OF W 500 FT ALSO EX THAT PT LYING SW'LY OF A LIN DES AS COM AT NW COR OF SEC 25 TH S 89 DEG 52' 19" E ALG THE N LIN OF SD SEC 902.26 FT TH S 41 DEG 54' 31" E 625.24 FT TO W 1/8 LIN OF SD SEC & POB OF SD DES LIN TH CONT S 41 DEG 54' 31" E 1158.65 FT TO THE N 1/8 LIN OF SD SEC & POINT OF ENDING OF SD LIN ALSO W 1/2 W 1/2 NE 1/4 EX THAT PT LYING SW'LY OF A LIN DES AS COM AT SE COR OF W 1/2 W 1/2 NE 1/4 TH N 01 DEG 34' 35" E 33.09 FT TO POB OF SD DES LINE, TH N 41 DEG 54' 31" W 967.82 FT TO THE N & S 1/4 LIN & PT OF ENDING OF SD DES LINE SEC 25 T3N R13W
Collier Farm Properties, LLC	16-025-011-00, 190.7 ac.	2574 127th Ave.	SW 1/4 EX W 115.5 FT OF S 214.5 FT OF N 1854.5 FT ALSO THAT PT OF SE 1/4 NW 1/4 LYING SW'LY OF A LIN DES AS COM AT A PT THAT IS 386.58 FT N'LY FROM THE CTR OF SEC 25 AS MEAS ALG THE N & S 1/4 LIN OF SD SEC AS POB OF SD DES LIN TH N 41 DEG 54' 31" W 1266.72 FT TO THE N 1/8 LIN OF SD SEC TO PT OF ENDING OF SD DES LIN SEC 25 T3N R13W
Collier Farm Properties, LLC	16-025-012-00, 3.3 ac.	Northwest corner of north/south jog of 127th ave. at approximately 2500 mark	THAT PT OF SE 1/4 NW 1/4 LYING NE'LY OF A LIN DES AS COM AT NW COR OF SEC 25 TH S 89 DEG 52' 19" E ALG THE N LIN OF SD SEC 902.26 FT TH S 41 DEG 54' 31" E 1783.89 FT TO THE N 1/8 LIN OF SD SEC & POB OF SD DES LIN TH CONT S 41 DEG 54' 31" E 776.95 FT TO THE N & S 1/4 LIN OF SD SEC & PT OF ENDING OF SD DES LINE SEC 25 T3N R13W
Collier Farm Properties, LLC	16-025-013-00, 8.8 ac.	2496 127th Ave.	BEG 1703.91' N OF S 1/4 PST TH N 576.66' TH N 83 DEG 40' 00"E 456.8' TH N 25 DEG 42' 31"E 50.2' TH E 117.97' TH S 03 DEG 56' 56"E 389.95' TH S 84 DEG 07' 39"E 45.89' TH S 04 DEG 27' 05"W 284.53' TH W 660' TO POB SEC 25 T3N R13W
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Collier Farm Properties, LLC	16-025-016-00, 7.58 ac	a landlocked parcel adjacent to the Consumer's parcel near south end of 24th street.	THAT PT OF S 88 AC OF SE 1/4 LYING NE'LY OF A LIN DES AS COM AT SE COR OF SEC 25 TH N 01 DEG 36' 53" E ALG THE E LIN OF SEC 25 534.11 FT TO POB OF SD DES LINE, TH N 41 DEG 54' 31" W 1222.9 FT TO THE N LIN OF SD S 88 AC OF SE 1/4 & PT OF ENDING OF SD DES LINE SEC 25 T3N R13W
Collier Farm Properties, LLC	16-036-001-00, 214 ac.	east side of 26th St. south of 126th Ave.	N 1/2 NW 1/4 ALSO N 1/2 NE 1/4 ALSO E 3/4 S 1/2 NE 1/4 EX THAT PT OF NE 1/4 LYG ELY OF C/L OF BEAR SWAMP DRAIN SEC 36 T3N R13W
Collier Farm Properties, LLC	16-036-004-00, 87 ac.	landlocked- s. of 001-00, e. of 2475 26th st.	NE 1/4 SW 1/4 ALSO N 1/2 SE 1/4 EX THAT PT OF N 1/2 SE 1/4 LYG E OF C/L BEAR SWAMP DRAIN SEC 36 T3N R13W

2. Any other business that comes properly before the Planning Commission.

Copies are available for review at the Township Hall during regular business hours and on the Monterey Township Website at www.montereytownship.org.

This meeting is intended to provide an opportunity for Township residents and interested citizens to express their opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the requests. Those unable to attend the public hearing are invited to submit written comments to the attention of the Planning Commission Secretary at Monterey Township Hall, 2999 30th Street, Allegan, Michigan, 49010 or by calling 616-877-2000. All written comments must be received by no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, November 7, 2025.

If any resident has a physical disability which may limit his/her participation in this hearing, please notify the Township Hall at least five (5) days prior to the hearing so that reasonable accommodations may be made.

SCOTT BOEVE, CHAIR

MONTEREY TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

616-877-2000

Members of the Otsego Middle School Student Council stock shelves at Christian Neighbors after dropped off items collected through a food drive. (Photo provided)

Items collected through the Washington Street Elementary hygiene drive are displayed by members of the school's Student Council. (Photo provided)

Otsego students donate food, hygiene products

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Expect excellence.

That's the motto used by Otsego Public Schools.

And while that sentiment obviously refers to academic side of the school experience, it also refers to the opportunities provided through the schools for students to give back to the community.

Otsego Middle School and Washington Street Elementary School recently provided those opportunities through a food drive and a hygiene drive, respectively.

OMS math teacher Karen Raseman helped organize the food drive, which benefited Christian Neighbors.

"This is my first year in this position, but I feel like the drive went really well overall," Raseman said. "One of the ladies at Christian Neighbors told us that this was one of the largest donations they've received recently, so that was encouraging."

The donation included nearly a half ton of food (970 pounds) from approximately 2,400 items along with a check for $1,600.

Members of the OMS Student Council were in charge of the food drive.

"The Student Council members volunteered their time each morning—and sometimes during their lunches—to collect items from their peers," Raseman said. "Once we were ready to deliver, they checked every item to make sure they weren't expired.

"They then boxed and moved them and then shelved all of the items on the shelves at Christian Neighbors."

In addition to helping the community through the items and money collected, Raseman said the food drive is an important learning experience for the students.

"These sorts of activities encourage students to showcase their leadership skills while they plan and collaborate," she said. "It gives them a sense of pride with their work while teaching them how their actions have real-world impacts. I think it helps them develop more compassion when they can see what a difference they are making."

The experience definitely had an impact on OMS Student Council president Calista Walker.

"It was really fun helping out," she said. "It was nice to see that we could help really stock their shelves. We had way more stock this year than my first two years of middle school and that makes me feel heartwarmed and happy."

Raseman also gave a shoutout to another group of Bulldogs—the Vicksburg Middle School boys basketball teams and their families.

"One of the ways we raised money and items for Christian Neighbors was by collecting donations at a home middle school boys basketball game against Vicksburg," Raseman said. "This gave us a big boost in our fundraising efforts. It was great to see the Vicksburg families joining us in our efforts to give back."

The hygiene drive at Washington Street Elementary, meanwhile, was part of the school's annual Stuff the Stockings event.

Similar to the OMS food drive, the hygiene drive is run by the school's Student Council and benefits Christian Neighbors.

Four large boxes of donations were collected.

"The hygiene drive went extremely well this year," said WSE second-grade teacher Mikala Brinket, who helps organize the drive. "We were thrilled with both the amount of items collected and the level of support shown by our students and families.

"It was clear that the school community really came together to support this cause, and the generosity we saw was very heartwarming."

The WSE Student Council members were responsible for promoting the drive in the various classrooms in addition to collecting and organizing the donations. They also helped box them and delivered the boxes to Christian Neighbors.

"Their leadership and willingness to help wherever needed played a big role in the success of the drive," Brinket said. "My favorite part was how the students rang bells in the morning while students arrived to collect the items. It was amazing to see how eager students are to help.

"Including students in activities like the hygiene drive is so important because it helps them understand the impact they can have on others. It teaches empathy, responsibility and the value of helping those in need.

"I think students take away a sense of pride knowing they contributed to something bigger than themselves and that even small actions can make a meaningful difference."

And while proud of the students' efforts during the hygiene drive, Brinket said the success of the drive was the result of a group effort that included even more individuals.

"I think it's important to recognize how supportive our families and staff were throughout the drive," she said. "Their participation made a huge difference. This was truly a team effort, and it's something our students can feel proud of being a part of."

PHS choir and band programs take trip to Orlando

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The recent Thanksgiving break was one to remember for members of the Plainwell High School choir and band programs.

That's because those students had the opportunity to travel to Orlando and participate in workshops and performances at Disney World and Universal Studios.

PHS choir director—and PHS alum—Abby Ernst said the trip was an impactful one for students.

"I think this trip opened students' eyes to all of the possibilities in performing," she said. "It ignited a bit of a fire in their creative hearts and, of course, created a lasting bond through fun shared memories with their classmates and staff."

The trip to Orlando is one the district's high school choir and band students take once every four years. That ensures each member of those programs has the opportunity to go once during their high school career.

"It's a super neat opportunity for growth in performance, but also an awesome bonding experience for the entire fine arts department to travel together and make memories," Ernst said.

Members of the Plainwell High School choir had the opportunity to perform on the Universal Orlando Main Stage, which is located in front of the Hard Rock Cafe. (Photo provided)

The choir program participated in a workshop at Disney World. As part of the workshop, students recorded two scenes from the movie "Tangled," including both music and vocals.

"It's no secret that Disney keeps the magic alive in many ways and this was the case with our workshop," Ernst said. "We got to work with one of their very talented performers who taught the students the music and an amazing tech director who put it all together as we were recording."

The PHS choir students spent three hours at the workshop.

"It was so fun to hear their laughter and see their excitement at the end of the workshop," Ernst said.

For their performance, the choir students showcased their talent on the main stage at Universal, which is located in front of the Hard Rock Café between the main Universal Studios theme park and Island of Adventure.

"We had an awesome experience at Universal with their STARS Performance team," Ernst said. "They made us feel so welcomed and encouraged and really focused on making the performance special for the students.

"The stage is set right in front of Hard Rock Cafe and park-goers pass by on their way into parks. It's a really cool setting for a performance."

The Plainwell High School band performed on Main Street in the Magic Kingdom. (Photo provided)

And as fate would have it, the PHS choir wasn't the only Michigan-based choir to perform that day.

"It was extra cool that due to pure coincidence another Michigan school was performing right before us," Ernst said. "So we were able to support Monroe High School as well."

The band students, meanwhile, had the opportunity to participate in a workshop at Universal Studios. They went behind the scenes and recorded a backtrack for a scene from "Despicable Me."

Additionally, the students were able to voice the beloved characters as voice actors and create sound effects.

For their performance, the band students took part in a marching parade down Main Street at Magic Kingdom.

"This trip would not have been possible without our amazing music team and our supportive administrators and community along with the incredible parents who volunteered to chaperone," Ernst said. "We're so grateful for support."

Special guests visit local schools

Students from a pair of local elementary schools recently had some special guests in the form of famous elves.

The Elf on a Shelf (left) visited Otsego's Alamo Elementary School, while Buddy the Elf (below) made an appearance at Plainwell's Gilkey Elementary School.

According to official reports, the fact that the Elf on the Shelf looked a lot like Alamo principal Nicole Knight-Lucas and that Buddy the Elf bore a striking resemblance to Gilkey principal Cody Gregory was merely coincidence. (Photos provided)

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Thursday, Dec. 25, 2025

Laskowski leads Trailblazers to victory over Delton

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Saugatuck senior basketball standout Tali Laskowski is a heck of an offensive player, as evidenced by her game-topping 22 points against visiting Delton on Friday, Dec. 19.

She's not too shabby on the defensive end, either.

In addition to her scoring effort, Laskowski racked up 13 steals against the Panthers to collect a unique double-double and lead the Trailblazers to the 51-22 victory.

The win was the fourth in a row to start the season for Saugatuck, which will be off until after Christmas break when it hosts Lawton on Tuesday, Jan. 6.

"This has been an extremely coachable team," Saugatuck coach Kevin Tringali said. "We emphasize the importance of defense every day, and they are starting to buy into it.

"Individually we have some really good on ball defenders in Tali, Mylah (Simpson), Penny (Grob) and Ada (Roth). Once we understand the team defense concepts, it's going to pay off especially when we have nights where we may struggle to score."

Roth and Ashtyn O'Neill each added two steals, while Gob, Simpson and Chloe Collins had one steal each.

The Trailblazers' defensive intensity was on full display throughout the game, but particularly in the first half. Delton managed just six points, as Saugatuck took a 30-6 lead to halftime.

Offensively, eight Saugatuck players scored at least one point.

Simpson and Roth followed Laskowski with nine points each. Collins was next in line with four points, while Grob, O'Neill and Jordan Sanders chipped in with two points each.

Lauren Grant contributed a point to the win.

"We know Delton is in a rebuilding time and there's no question Coach Lilibridge will get this team on the right track," Tringali said. "He is passionate and knows the game as well as anybody."

Saugatuck's Tali Laskowski (right) keeps the ball away from a pair of Delton-Kellogg players during the Trailblazers' 51-22 win. (Photo by Scott Sullivan)

Laskowski added a team-best seven rebounds to her stat sheet. She also had three assists, matching Grob for second on the team behind Simpson's four.

Trojans pick up victory over visiting Vicksburg

Plainwell's Nate Launt drives to the basketball during his team's win over Vicksburg. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

PLAINWELL—The Wolverine Conference boys basketball game between host Plainwell and Vicksburg on Friday, Dec. 19, couldn't have been much closer through the first three quarters.

Vicksburg led 13-12 after one quarter, with the Trojans holding leads of 25-23 at halftime and 35-32 at the end of three quarters.

Plainwell used a 9-6 edge in the final frame to hold off the visitors and claim the 44-38 victory.

The win upped the Trojans' winning streak to four straight, with Plainwell improving to 5-1 overall and 3-1 in league play.

Senior Chib Amaezechi paced Plainwell with 16 points, as eight Trojans found their way into the scoring column.

"Chib led us offensively, and he did a good job playing inside and outside," longtime Plainwell coach Larry Ash said. "But this was a great total-team effort on offense and even more so on defense."

The Plainwell defense was particularly strong in the second half, limiting Vicksburg (3-2) to 15 total points.

"(Vicksburg) run(s) and their fast break really well and they shoot well," Ash said. "So our goal was to get back and slow them down.

"We have been going with a smaller speed group with four guards that gives us some more speed and we're playing a half-court defense. Our guys are buying in and trying to rebound better."

Nobody rebounded better for Plainwell than Ronald Nunez, who led the team with 11 boards to go with four steals. He added four points to match Reece Trahan for fourth on the team in the scoring department.

"Ronald is really stepping up his game," Ash said.

Luke Filkins was second behind Amaezechi in scoring with seven points, while Gibson Youngs added five points. Drew Rayman and Trason Stephenson chipped in with three points each and Tyler Vanderstelt rounded out the scoring for Plainwell with two points.

Allegan swim wins first league meet

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The Allegan boys swim & dive team opened its league season in impressive fashion, defeating Sturgis 87–59 on Tuesday, Dec. 16.

The Tigers delivered a strong team performance, winning 11 events and showcasing depth throughout the meet.

The meet began on a high note with a victory in the 200 medley relay, as Sam Kelly, Corbin Chopp, Cadel Conrad, and John DeLaet touched first to set the tone for the night.

Individual event winners included: Oliver Burnett in the 200 freestyle and 100 butterfly; Chopp in the 100 freestyle and 100 breaststroke; Josh Kelly in the 50 freestyle and the 500 freestyle; and Conrad in the 200 individual medley.

Allegan also swept both freestyle relays. The 200 freestyle relay team of Sam Kelly, Ezra Smith, Chopp and Burnett finished first, as did the 400 freestyle relay of Smith, DeLaet, Conrad and Burnett.

"Overall, it was an outstanding first league meet for us," Allegan coach Carol Gephart said. "The athletes have been working hard together in practice, and their energy, teamwork and enthusiasm were evident throughout the meet.

"This is a close-knit and motivated group of swimmers, and they are excited to build on this momentum as the season continues."

Tigers take first at Gobles Cheer Bash

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

GOBLES—Allegan competitive cheer coach Nicole Durr received an early Christmas present from her team.

Competing in the Gobles Cheer Bash on Saturday, Dec. 20, the Tigers racked up 695.1 points to take first place in Division 3.

That score was more than 120 points ahead of the runner-up in D3, as Hopkins finished with 574.14 points.

The Allegan Middle School cheer team also took top honors in Division 3.

"I felt like we had three very solid rounds today with minimal mistakes for so early in the season," Durr said. "The girls cheered with amazing energy and our round 2 was the cleanest we have performed it all season, including at practice."

Allegan started the day by scoring 217.3 in round 1. The Tigers followed with a 192.7 in round 2 and a 285.1 in round 3.

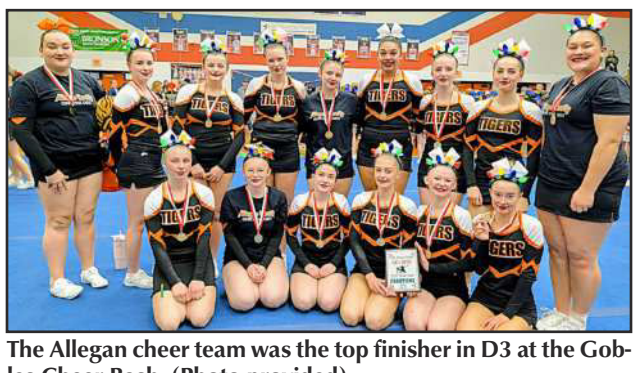
Durr was pleased with the growth and maturity her team has shown in the past year.

"We have a much more experienced team this year, with a junior heavy roster," she said. "That maturity can definitely be seen when the team is on the mat. They take charge and really put on a show."

Juniors who have taken on leadership roles for the Tigers include Raniah Sipkema and Kara Wooster.

Durr also praised the effort of seniors Kylie Emmons and Bridget McKinley.

"Kylie and Bridget are leaders for us," Durr said.



The Allegan cheer team was the top finisher in D3 at the Gobles Cheer Bash. (Photo provided)

B&C Trophy Athlete of the Week

Wyatt Dennis
Otsego
Boys Basketball

The Otsego boys basketball team is on a roll, winning four straight games after starting the season with two losses.

Guard Wyatt Dennis has been one of the reasons for the Bulldogs' hot play as of late.

In Otsego's win against Three Rivers on Thursday, Dec. 18, Dennis scored a team-high 17 points. Two days earlier, Dennis scored 10 points to help the Bulldogs upend Sturgis.

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Otsego boys run winning streak to four straight

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

OTSEGO—After starting the season with a pair of losses, the Otsego boys basketball team reeled off four straight victories heading into Christmas break.

The most recent two of those wins came at home against Three Rivers (64-46) on Thursday, Dec. 18, and Sturgis (60-43) on Tuesday, Dec. 16.

In the Three Rivers game, the Bulldogs trailed 16-15 at the end of the first quarter. But a 14-8 edge in the second stanza gave Otsego the 29-24 halftime lead.

It's a lead the Bulldogs didn't relinquish, as the pulled away in the second half.

Nine players scored at least one point in the win.

"It was one of those games where our balance and defensive effort really showed up," Otsego coach Matt Dennis said. "We were steady early, took a small lead into halftime and then did a good job coming out of the locker room with better focus and energy on both ends of the floor."

Wyatt Dennis led the way with 17 points, followed by 15 from Leeland Longcore and 11 from Colin Fitzpatrick. Longcore also had six assists, while Fitzpatrick had nine rebounds.

"Wyatt knocked down shots when we needed them and stretched the defense," Matt Dennis said. "Leeland did a great job running the team. Colin led us on the glass, giving us extra possessions and toughness inside."

Matt Dennis thought his team's relentlessness on defense was a key to the win.

"Three Rivers shot the ball well early, but our pressure in the press and then getting out to shooters in the second half slowed them down," he said. "I like what I saw tonight and think we are heading in the right direction."

Otsego fell behind 11-6 after one quarter in the Sturgis game, but the Bulldogs quickly righted the ship. They led 23-19 at the intermission and 47-31 through three quarters.

But a big third quarter that saw the Bulldogs hold a 24-12 scoring lead put Otsego on top to stay.

"After a slow start, we found our rhythm offensively, shooting 50 percent from the field and outscoring Sturgis 41–20 across the second and third quarters," Matt Dennis said.

Longcore led a balanced scoring attack with 12 points, shooting an efficient 6-for-10 while adding 4 assists and 5 steals.

Wyatt Dennis chipped in 10 points, witch Owen Santman going for nine points that included a perfect 4-of-4 effort from the field.

Mitchell Hazelhoff added seven points off the bench and played solid defense.

"We are starting to put things together on both ends of the floor," Matt Dennis said. "Our defense is creating turnovers and leading to some easy baskets. We still haven't played a solid four quarters, but each game we get a little closer to being a more complete team."

Otsego is off over Christmas break and will return to action on Tuesday, Jan. 6, when the Bulldogs head to Gull Lake.

Leeland Longcore drives to the basket during Otsego's win over Sturgis. (Photo by Tim Beason)

Otsego girls stay unbeaten

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

STURGIS—After leading by 13 points at the end of three quarters, the Otsego girls basketball team found itself locked in a 48-48 deadlock with host Sturgis in the closing seconds of this Wolverine Conference game Tuesday, Dec. 16.

But a layup at the buzzer by Madden Fitzpatrick allowed Bulldogs coach Tony Koshar to breath a sigh of relief as his team posted the 50-48 win.

The victory upped Otsego's record to 3-0 overall and 2-0 in league play, while Sturgis fell to 2-1.

"It was a really exciting game between two undefeated teams who should both contend for the Wolverine title," Koshar said. "Although I'm disappointed in a lot of the fourth quarter, I was really proud of our handling of the game when they had the ball tied and our execution to win it at the buzzer."

With Otsego leading 45-32 through three stanzas, Sturgis embarked on a 16-3 run in the final frame to knot the score at 48-48. The Vikings then had the ball with 37 seconds remaining with a chance to take the lead.

But the Bulldogs played a good defensive possession and, after a miss by Sturgis with nine seconds left, Audrey Lingbeek secured the rebound for Otsego. She threw an outlet pass to Olivia Hildebrand, who then made a pass to Fitzpatrick.

Brooke Smalldon paced Otsego with 15 points, while Lingbeek had nine and Mya Engbers had eight. Fitzpatrick added six points and a team-best eight rebounds.

The contest was, as Koshar called it, a game of runs.

The Bulldogs fell behind 21-11 early in the second quarter before going on a 16-4 run to take a 27-25 lead. The score was 27-27 at the half.

Otsego carried that momentum into the third quarter, using a 17-2 run to go up 44-29 before settling for the 13-point lead heading to the final stanza.

That set the stage for Sturgis' final run and, ultimately, Fitzpatrick's winning basket.

Saugatuck boys fall to Delton

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

SAUGATUCK—Progress.

That's what second-year Saugatuck boys basketball coach Ty Rock is looking for from his young squad.

And he saw that in the Trailblazers' home game with Delton-Kellogg on Friday, Dec. 19.

Because while Saugatuck was on the wrong end of a 77-47 final score, the offensive output was the best of the season so far.

The Trailblazers, who fell to 0-6, had a previous high scoring game of 41 points in a loss to Holland Calvary. They hadn't scored more than 28 points in any of their other four games.

"We played a much more complete game tonight," Rock said. "I know the score still says it was a 30-point loss—and it was—but the fact that we made some shots and ended up doing a lot of positive things tonight was a big step forward."

While encouraged by what he saw from his team, Rock readily admits much work remains to be done in the weeks and months ahead.

"We still have issues with turnovers and need to get better period," he said. "Defensively, we were better in some ways, but there are still a lot of issues. You can't win many games giving up 77 points as a team that struggles offensively."

Still, Rock is choosing to head into the two-week Christmas break on a positive note.

"This was improvement and we need to take that momentum into the next two months when break is over," he said.

Saugatuck will be on the road for a pair of games when play resumes after the first of the year, heading to Calhoun Christian on Tuesday, Jan. 6, before traveling to Holland Black River on Friday, Jan. 9.

The Trailblazers will be back home against Muskegon Catholic Central on Tuesday, Jan. 13.

Martin boys fall to Bridgman

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

MARTIN—In the second half of its contest with Bridgman on Tuesday, Dec. 16, the Martin boys basketball team outscored the Bees 37-30.

That was the good news for the Clippers.

The bad news was that they were down 39-15 at halftime, resulting in a 69-52 loss.

Martin, which had been in search of a second straight win after upending Saugatuck four days earlier, fell to 1-4.

"We got off to another slow start, which is something that's been happening this season and something we are trying to correct," Martin coach Corby Callaway said.

Turnovers were also a big story of the game in the first half.

"Turnovers hurt us a ton tonight," Callaway said. "We took care of the ball a little better in the second half, and that's what allowed us to finish the game well."

Blake Sweeting had a strong performance in the losing cause.

In addition to leading all scorers with 24 points, Sweeting paced the Clippers with eight rebounds and tied Jason Marshall for the team lead in steals with four.

Marshall and Weson Elkins added seven points each. The pair also combined for 11 assists, including six from Marshall.

Hamilton girls drop two

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

HAMILTON—In the first, second and fourth quarters, the Hamilton girls basketball team outscored Jenison 29-25 when the teams met on Friday, Dec. 19.

The third quarter was a different story.

With the game deadlocked at 21-21 following a back-and-forth first half, Jenison outscored the Hawkeyes 18-3 in the third stanza to pull away en route to the 43-32 win.

Leah Brink paced Hamilton with 13 points, followed by Brooke Petroelje with six and Emma Slotman with five. Kelsey Mersman and Lydia Nelson added three points each.

On Tuesday, Dec. 16, Hamilton hosted Unity Christian and fell by a final score of 52-22.

The Hawkeyes trailed 24-13 at halftime and 40-21 at the end of the third frame.

Brink scored a team-topping six points in the loss. Petroelje, Mersman and Paige Kleinheksel finished with three points each.

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Balanced scoring leads Martin to victory over Allegan

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Seven of the eight players who suited up for the Martin girls basketball team in its road game with Allegan on Tuesday, Dec. 16, scored at least one point.

That balanced offensive showing coupled with a strong defensive effort propelled the Clippers to the 36-17 win over the Tigers.

The victory was the first for Martin (1-2) following a pair of losses. Allegan fell to 0-2 on the young season.

"Defense was our top priority coming into the game, and I thought we played some really great defense, especially in the second half," first-year Martin coach Eric Zudweg said.

Martin's defensive prowess was definitely on display after halftime.

Leading 24-12 at the intermission, the Clippers allowed five total points in the second half. That included holding Allegan scoreless in the fourth quarter.

Martin led 30-17 after three quarters.

"We really buckled down in the second half," Zudweg said. "We really packed in the paint to prevent any easy baskets and I was happy with how hard our girls played."

Offensively, the Clippers scored nearly half of their points in the first quarter as they jumped out to a 16-8 lead.

Anna Jager led that early charge, scoring seven of her game-best 11 points in the opening frame. That included a 3-pointer and a 4-of-5 effort at the free throw line.

Kayden Jager scored all four of her points in the first quarter.

"We got off to a great start," Zudweg said. "We started in a press and turned some defense into offense."

Allegan did a better job of containing the Clippers the rest of the game, allowing no more than eight points in any quarter.

"Allegan played hard and we turned the ball over more than we would like," Zudweg said. "You've got to give Allegan a lot of credit for that."

But the early lead and defensive intensity by Martin was too much for the Tigers to overcome.

Torryn Harris was second in scoring for the Clippers behind Anna Jager, going for eight points. Aliyah DeGlopper had six points, while Alley Bacon joined Kayden Jager with four points.

For Allegan, Ellie Ziemelis and Jayden VandenAkker combined to score all but two of the team's points. Ziemelis had nine points and VandenAkker went for six.

Allegan's Camdyn Drozd (left) and Martin's Torryn Harris battle for control of the ball. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Allegan boys come up short against Coloma, Gobles

Allegan's Ayden Fusco, seen in an earlier game, had nine points and 17 rebounds in a loss to Coloma. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

A balanced scoring attack against Coloma on Friday, Dec. 19, wasn't quite enough to translate into a win for the Allegan boys basketball team.

Despite having seven players score at least five points, the Tigers dropped a 61-55 decision to fall to 3-4.

Braydn Kozoroski led the Tigers in the loss, going for 11 points. Brandon Thrash had 10 points, while Ayden Fusco had nine points and 17 rebounds.

LJ Dial and Liam Antonie added six points each, with Colby Bishop going for five points.

Allegan fell behind 10-0 to start the game before closing the first quarter on a 17-2 run to go up 17-12. The second quarter belonged to Coloma, which used an 18-10 scoring edge to take a 30-27 halftime lead.

"Coloma was able to get a couple of offensive rebounds and convert on second-chance points in the second quarter," Allegan coach Brian Baker said.

On Tuesday, Dec. 16, the Tigers traveled to Gobles and came up just short, losing the game 52-48.

"We battled back and forth all night," Baker said. "We took the lead in the third quarter after being down at half. We played great that quarter, but in the fourth Gobles made four 3-pointers and we could not hit a shot from beyond the arc.

"Also, we got into foul trouble which affected play in the second half. That led to them shooting 24 free throws while we only got to the line nine times."

Offensively, Fusco had 16 points to go with 11 rebounds and six blocks. Thrash had 12 points and three steals, while LJ Dial had seven points and Liam Antione chipped in with points.

"We're still working towards getting our first road win and hope to get that after we come back from Christmas break," Baker said. "The break is coming at a good time for us. We have some players who have been out injured and some that have been sick this week. We are hoping to have everyone back healthy when we resume play on Jan. 9.

"I am proud of the fight these kids give every game."

Hamilton cheer takes first place at Wyoming Invite

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

WYOMING—Talk about making a good first impression.

In its first competition of the season, the Hamilton competitive cheer team captured first place at the Wyoming Invitational on Friday, Dec. 19.

The Hawkeyes finished with 647.2 points, putting them more than 50 points ahead of second-place finisher Grand Rapids Catholic Central with 588.9 points.

Wayland also competed in the seven-team event, placing fourth with 583.9 points, just one point behind third-place Loy Norrix.

Hamilton coach Angie Kidwell admitted to feeling a bit uncertain heading into the event as the team was without some key members.

"We went into this competition not sure how it would go," Kidwell said. "We had one girl who was in all three rounds get a concussion last week and then one girl who was in two rounds got a foot injury earlier in the week."

That caused a shakeup in the Hamilton lineup.

"We had to throw in a couple girls who weren't used to those spots and just go with it," Kidwell said. "They did great."

At the end of the first round, Hamilton found itself in a deadlock for first place with Loy Norrix, as each of those teams had 207 points.

But the Hawkeyes had the top score in round two to head into the third round with a 9-point lead.

Hamilton ended any suspense as to the outcome as it dominated round three, posting a score of 261.8 to finish 40.5 ahead of Loy Norrix in that round.

"There are things we can work on, of course, but that only makes us look forward to the competitions to come and the growth we will see," Kidwell said. "I'm excited to see where this team goes."

Wayland put together round scores of 200.3, 164.1 and 219.5 to account for its 583.9 total.

Members of the Hamilton cheer team were all smiles after taking first place at the Wyoming Invitational. (Photo provided)

Plainwell girls win again

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

VICKSBURG—Another game, another double-double for Plainwell's Anna Overway.

In the girls' basketball game between the Trojans and host Vicksburg on Friday, Dec. 19, Overway went for 15 points and 19 rebounds to lead Plainwell to the 48-39 win.

The Trojans improved to 4-0.

Alyssa Weldon added 14 points—including an 8-of-10 effort at the line—with five steals and three assists, while Kaylee VanAtter had 11 points—9 of them from the line—along with four steals.

Plainwell trailed 12-10 after one quarter and led just 25-24 at the intermission. But a 13-5 edge in the third quarter gave the Trojans some breathing room.

"We had a pretty rocky practice the night before, and that carried over once the lights came on," Plainwell coach Elexis Buchanan said. "We made some vital mistakes early in the game, but the girls quickly realized they didn't like being in that position, which led to some necessary adjustments.

"It was by no means easy to fight back from that spot, especially against Vicksburg, which has been a very well-structured program for the past few years. They are disciplined, well-coached and play with great defensive intensity and scrappiness. Their overall knowledge of the game has them in a really good spot moving forward after the break."

Plainwell will be off for Christmas break before returning to action on Tuesday, Jan. 6, when it hosts Mattawan.

"This game was a wake-up call for us," Buchanan said. "It's still early in the season and there's a lot of basketball left to be played. If we continue to build the right habits and learn from moments like this, we'll keep this program moving in the right direction.

"Coming back from break, we have to hit the ground running and be ready to work."

SEASONS GREETINGS
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BEST OF 2025- Books

This past year, you've often had to make do.

Saving money here, resources there, being inventive and innovative. It's a talent you've honed, but isn't it time to have the best? Yep, so grab these Ten Best of 2025 books for your new year pleasures...

Nonfiction

Health care is on everyone's mind now, and **"A Living: Working-Class Americans Talk to Their Doctor" by Michael D. Stein, M.D.** (Melville House, $26.99) lets you peek into health care from the point of view of a doctor who treats "front-line workers" and those who experience poverty and homelessness. It's shocking, an eye-opening book, a skinny, quick-to-read one that needs to be read now.

If you've been doing eldercare or caring for any loved one, then **"How to Lose Your Mother: A Daughter's Memoir" by Molly Jong-Fast** (Viking, $28.00) needs to be in your plans for the coming year. It's a memoir, but also a biography of Jong-Fast's mother, Erica Jong, and the story of love, illness, and living through the chaos of serious disease with humor and grace. You'll like this book especially if you were a fan of the author's late mother.

Another memoir you can't miss this year is **"Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea: A Veteran's Memoir" by Khadijah Queen** (Legacy Lit, $30.00). It's the story of one woman's determination to get out of poverty and get an education, and to keep her head above water while she goes below water by joining the U.S. Navy. This is a story that will keep you glued to your seat, all the way through.

Self-improvement is something you might think about tackling in the new year, and **"Replaceable You: Adventures in Human Anatomy" by Mary Roach** (W.W. Norton & Company, $28.99) is a lighthearted – yet real and informative – look at the things inside and outside your body that can be replaced or changed. New nose job? Transplant, new dental work? Learn how you can become the Bionic Person in real life, and laugh while you're doing it.

The science lover inside you will want to read **"The Grave Robber: The Biggest Stolen Artifacts Case in FBI History and the Bureau's Quest to Set Things Right" by Tim Carpenter** (Harper Horizon, $29.99). A history lover will also want it, as will anyone with a craving for true crime, memoir, FBI procedural books, and travel books. It's the story of a man who spent his life stealing objects from graves around the world, and an FBI agent's obsession with securing the objects and returning them. It's a fascinating read, with just a little bit of gruesome thrown in for fun.

Fiction

Speaking of a little bit of scariness, **"Don't Forget Me, Little Bessie" by James Lee Burke** (Atlantic Monthly Press, $28.00) is the story of a girl named Bessie and her involvement with a cloven-hooved being who dogs her all her life. Set in still-wild south Texas, it's a little bit western, part paranormal, and completely full of enjoyment.

"**Evensong" by Stewart O'Nan** (Atlantic Monthly Press, $28.00) is a layered novel of women's friendships as they age together and support one another. The characters are warm and funny, there are a few times when your heart will sit in your throat, and you won't be sorry you read it. It's just plain irresistible.

If you need a dark tale for what's left of a dark winter season, then **"One of Us" by Dan Chaon** (Henry Holt, $28.00), it it. It's the story of twins who become orphaned when their Mama dies, ending up with a man who owns a traveling freak show, and who promises to care for them. But they can't ever forget that a nefarious con man is looking for them; those kids can talk to one another without saying a word, and he's going to make lots of money off them. This is a sharp, clever novel that fans of the "circus" genre shouldn't miss.

"**When the Harvest Comes" by Denne Michele Norris** (Random House, $28.00) is a wonderful romance, a boy-meets-boy with a little spice and a lot of strife. Davis loves Everett but as their wedding day draws near, doubts begin to creep in. There's homophobia on both sides of their families, and no small amount of racism. Beware that there's some light explicitness in this book, but if you love a good love story, you'll love this.

Another layered tale you'll enjoy is **"The Elements" by John Boyne** (Henry Holt, $29.99), a twisty bunch of short stories that connect in a series of arcs that begin on an island near Dublin. It's about love, death, revenge, and horror, a little like *The Twilight Zone,* but without the paranormal. You won't want to put down, so be warned.

If you need more ideas, head to your local library or bookstore and ask the staff there for their favorite reads of 2025. They'll fill your book bag and your new year with goodness.

Season's Readings!

Ganges Township

December 9, 2025 7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting Synopsis

1. Call to order & Pledge of Allegiance – 7:00 p.m.
2. Present: Hutchins, Reimink, Hebert, Thompson; Absent: Phelps
3. Approved Agenda with Additions
4. Correspondence
5. Public Comments
6. Approved Regular Mtg Minutes from November 11, 2025, Special and Closed Session Mtg Minutes from November 24, 2025
7. Approved Treasurer's Report
8. Approved listed bills in the amount of $59,922.05
9. Reports from Fire Dept, Sexton, and Planning Commission
10. Approved Fire Academy Classes and MFR Class
11. Approved 2026 Road work orders
12. Appointed ZBA member Charles Mannion
13. Approved 3 yr Accident and Health Policy
14. Approved Ordinance Temporary Moratorium on Short Term Rentals
15. Heard Public Comments
16. Adjourned meeting at 7:26 p.m.

NOTICE

OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED SITE PLAN APPLICATION FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION OF HONOR CREDIT UNION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE of a public hearing at

Allegan Township Hall
3037 118th Avenue
January 12, 2026 at 7:30pm

To consider the Site Plan Application submitted by Honor Credit Union for construction of a new commercial building and parking lot on the following parcel of property:

1256 Lincoln Road, Allegan, Michigan, 49010
Parcel # 03-01-034-103-10

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Allegan Township Planning Commission hereby specifically reserves the right to recommend and consider changes in the zoning ordinance other than as proposed herein. The public may appear at the public hearing in person or by counsel.

Written comments may be submitted to:

Mr. Ted Heckman, Chairman
Allegan Township Planning Commission
3037 118th Ave.
Allegan, MI 49010

ALLEGAN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
COUNTY PRIMARY
HOT MIX ASPHALT PAVING

Sealed bids will be received by the Allegan County Road Commission at their office at 1308 Lincoln Road (M¬89), Allegan, Michigan until 11:00 A.M., Wednesday, January 7, 2026, and at such time be publicly opened and read aloud for the following:

I. HOT MIX ASPHALT PAVEMENT

Hot Mix Asphalt paving (Michigan Department of Transportation Specification: 4EML & 5EML) in Allegan, Fillmore, Ganges, Heath, Laketown and Leighton Townships.

Complete specifications and bid forms are available at the Road Commission office and the Road Commission website www.alleganroads.org under the Projects link.

Bidders must be prequalified by the Michigan Department of Transportation to perform Paving Construction.

All bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the Road Commission and sealed in envelopes with the name and address of the bidder, and the item bid upon clearly marked thereon.

BID DEPOSIT of at least 5% of the bid amount will be required for each project bid upon. A single bid check may be submitted to cover all projects bid. The Bid Deposit may be in the form of Certified Check, Cashier's Check, or Bid Bond.

The Commission reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive minor technicalities, and to accept the bid that is deemed to be in the best interest of the County of Allegan.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS
OF ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Larry Brown, Chairman
Rick Cain, Vice-Chairman
Harold Hamlin, Member

CITY OF ALLEGAN

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE the Zoning Board of Appeals of the City of Allegan, Michigan, shall hold Public Hearings on Monday, January 5, 2026 at 4 p.m. at Allegan City Hall, 231 Trowbridge, Allegan, Michigan to hear the following requests:

1. An application from Stephen Murk of Sterla Properties, LLC, interested party and property owner for 101 Monroe and an adjacent unaddressed parcel, known as parcels 03-51-105-186-00 and 03-51-105-185-00 to appeal the zoning administrator's determination that a grade change to a parcel with a nonconforming use would be in violation of Section 6.11.C of the City of Allegan Zoning Ordinance.
2. Any other such business as properly comes before the Zoning Board of Appeals.

A copy of the applications and related materials is available for viewing at City Hall during regular business hours. Materials may also be accessed on our website at http://www.cityofallegan.org. Questions and comments regarding these requests may be submitted prior to the Public Hearing to the City Clerk at City Hall, 231 Trowbridge, Allegan, MI, 49010, or by calling 269-673-5511.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the City of Allegan will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the hearing to individuals with disabilities upon five (5) days written notice to the City Clerk at 231 Trowbridge, Allegan, MI, 49010 or by phone 269-673-5511.

JOEL DYE, MANAGER
CITY OF ALLEGAN
269-673-5511

TOWNSHIP OF GANGES

COUNTY OF ALLEGAN, STATE OF MICHIGAN
ORDINANCE NO. 66
ADOPTED: DECEMBER 9, 2025
EFFECTIVE: DECEMBER 25, 2025

AN ORDINANCE TO IMPOSE A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON SHORT-TERM RENTALS

An Ordinance to protect the public health, safety, and welfare by establishing regulations relating to a moratorium on short-term rentals while the Township completes a study of regulations pertaining thereto and possible subsequent revisions to the current Zoning Ordinance and other ordinances; to provide for severability; to repeal all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith; and to provide an effective date.

THE TOWNSHIP OF GANGES
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
ORDAINS:

SECTION I
FINDINGS

In accordance with Public Act 246 of 1945, MCL 41.181 et seq., as amended, Ganges Township has determined the following:

1. Short-term rentals are a very new and atypical use which have many potential and yet unknown impacts on surrounding uses and the Township as a whole.
2. The Township has not previously considered short-term rentals and the present ordinances do not contemplate their use, meaning there is a void in regulation that the Township wishes to properly address.
3. The Township Board has numerous concerns on the potential impacts of short-term rentals on the community, including but not limited to: their impact on the residential character of neighborhoods; their impact on housing availability and affordability for permanent residents; their impact on public services including police, fire, emergency medical services, water, sewer, and waste management; their impact on traffic and parking; and their impact on noise and neighborhood tranquility.
4. The Township finds that imposing a moratorium upon the consideration of any applications or proposals for use of property as a short-term rental is reasonable and necessary for, among other reasons, the following reasons:

A. Michigan courts have recognized that a moratorium is a common and legitimate planning tool to preserve the status quo while formulating a development strategy.

B. The contemplated moratorium would allow the study of the public health, safety, and welfare concerns regarding short-term rentals and allow for any needed Zoning Ordinance update and implementation process to occur.

C. The contemplated moratorium would allow the study and possible implementation of revisions to the Zoning Ordinance to occur with citizen input and involvement, public debate, and full consideration of all issues and points of view.

SECTION II
MORATORIUM

A moratorium is imposed upon the consideration of any applications or proposals for the use of property as a short-term rental until June 30, 2026 or until an ordinance or amendment to the Zoning Ordinance addressing short-term rentals is adopted, whichever occurs first. For purposes of this moratorium, a short-term rental is defined as the rental of any dwelling unit, in whole or in part, to any person(s) for transient use, where ethe term of occupancy, possession, or tenancy is less than thirty (30) consecutive days. Short-term rental does not include hotels or motels lawfully operating and licensed.

SECTION III
TERM OF MORATORIUM

The moratorium imposed by this ordinance will remain in effect until June 30, 2026 or until an ordinance or amendments to the Zoning Ordinance become effective, whichever occurs first. Before this moratorium expires, the Township may by resolution extend the moratorium as appropriate to allow sufficient time to complete amendments to its ordinances. If an extension is adopted, the Township will publish notice of the same.

SECTION IV
SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any clause, sentence, word, section or provision is hereafter declared void or unenforceable for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect the remainder of such ordinance which shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION V
REPEAL AND EFFECTIVE DATE

All ordinance or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict. This ordinance shall take effect upon publication.

Robin Phelps, Clerk
Township of Ganges
1904 64th Street
Fennville, MI 49408
269-543-8316

Peek at the Past

From the pages of The Allegan News and The Allegan County News and Gazette:

Dec. 25, 1950

Christmas love spans miles for wounded GI: Christmas love spanned between a small, scantily furnished home here and the Valley Forge veteran's hospital in Pennsylvania this week.

Christmas day was Michael DuBois' seventh birthday. He awoke to find a beautiful red tricycle beneath the family's little tree—and Mike, crippled with polio since he was two years old, assures you he will learn to ride it by next spring, even though his left leg is shriveled and shortened.

Far away in Valley Forge hospital his oldest brother Frank lay recovering from injuries suffered in Korea. He was the only survivor of an ammunition truck explosion during the Thanksgiving offensive. Ten days ago he was returned to the United States for hospitalization.

Frank's gifts made a Merry Christmas possible for the DuBois family. Besides the "trike," there were gifts for each of the 9-year-old twins, Larry and Mary, Judy, 4, and Helen, 16.

"Take good care of the kids mother," Frank had written home from Korea. "I couldn't stand it if anything happened to them."

Dec. 25, 1975

Sportscaster call Hopkins 'Most inspirational team': Jenny Niemczyk led Hopkins' scorers during the regular season with 169 points and Kerry Kastner, a stalwart in the tournaments, scored 96 points in eight games to lead tourney play.

The girls, coaches by Ellen Penhorwood, ended the season with an 18-5 record, including seven straight wins in tournaments before losing the Class C finals to a strong Gladwin team.

Praise for the girls came from all quarters following their successful season, including a few compliments from unexpected sources.

One source, sportscaster Marc Wesley of WNEM TV in Saginaw, wrote to Mrs. Penhorwood. He said he has, over the past 15 years, covered thousands of sporting events.

"I have never seen anything more inspirational than your girls," he wrote, "following what surely was a heartbreaking loss in the state finals.

"Any group of girls who have the poise, the pride and the guts to stand behind the runner-up banner and cheer, 'We're number two,' know what competitive sports is really about."

Dec. 28, 2000

Buck sworn in by Judge Beach as new Allegan County probate judge: Transition of the Allegan County Probate Court judgeship from George A. Greig to Michael Buck is all but complete.

Buck was sworn in to his new office at the Allegan County courthouse Friday, Dec. 22.

His new duties begin when the clock ticks over from midnight, Dec. 31, to New Year's Day.

Circuit court judge Harry A. Beach administered the oath of office. The ceremony in Beach's courtroom attracted all five sitting judges in Allegan County along with a gallery packed by Buck family members, friends, legal colleagues, court employees, people from law enforcement and well-wishers.

At his swearing in Friday, Dec. 22, Michael Buck (second from left) joined the ranks of judges in Allegan County. (From left) George A. Greig (retiring), Harry A. Beach, George R. Corsiglia, Stephen E. Sheridan and Gary Stewart welcomed Buck among the brethren. (Photo by Dan Kelsey)

The office of judge of the probate and juvenile courts opened up early this year when Greig, who occupied the post for 24 years, announced his intention to retire at the end of 2000. Christopher Anderson, Buck, Kevin Cronin and Heidi Wolf vied for voter approval to succeed Greig. Buck and Cronin survived the primary election in August, and Buck won the judgeship in the general election in November.

Buck said he was notified after the election of a school in Lansing for training of new judges. He attended for two days in November and will return for a week of training in January.

The school provides training in such matters as administrative duties and the winding down of private or public legal practice.

Dec. 24, 2020

Jade Inn opens doors with ribbon cutting: The refurbishing of the grand estate in Allegan's historic district at the corner of N. Walnut and Monroe Streets has been completed, and the Jade Estate Inn Bed and Breakfast is ready for business. On December 18, 2020, owners Todd and Nia Green with innkeepers Cathy (CJ) and Steve Monroe and friend Elizabeth Englesman joined City Manager Joel Dye and Allegan Chamber Executive Director Tim Perrigo on the front steps of the Inn where the ribbon was cut to signal that they are ready to accommodate guests in January 2021.

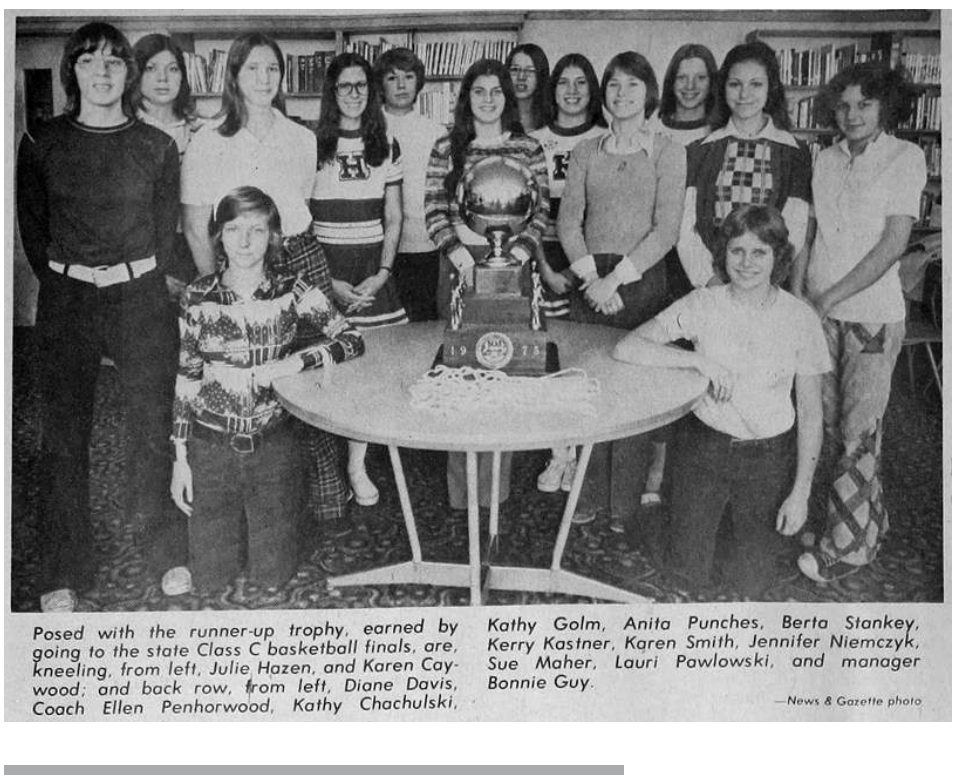
Since 1917, the 1863 Italianate Renaissance home once owned by Minion and Earl Delano has not been receiving guests. Since spring 2020, Todd and Nia Green have worked to restore the residence to its original grandeur. The walls and trim have been freshened, and furniture and décor have been simplified and arranged to create a welcoming atmosphere, while the grounds have received extensive manicuring.

Perrigo explained at the Ribbon Cutting that "this is an exciting day. The building sat vacant for too long. Anyone coming down Cutler this past summer witnessed the frenetic pace in making renovations and improvements to the buildings and grounds. We know this Inn is important to our downtown businesses because when people stay here, they visit our shops and restaurants."

During a virtual tour, Todd shared how the interior of the home was freshened to keep the original Victorian wallpaper and trim. Cathy explained how the furnishings and décor had been simplified to give a warm but open feeling. The entry parlor contains original furniture, a sunny sitting room offers soft seating and fireplace, six bedrooms are cozy and inviting, and the dining room boasts a long table for full breakfasts as soon as it is deemed safe. Nia explained that "in the meanwhile, we will serve a full breakfast, socially distanced and at varying times to allow guests to eat in the dining room and remain safe."

—Compiled by Jason Wesseldyk

Tim Perrigo, Todd Monroe, Elizabeth Englesman, Cathy (CJ) Monroe and Joel Dye watch Todd Green cut the ribbon signaling the opening of the Jade Estate Inn in January 2021.



Posed with the runner-up trophy, earned by going to the state Class C basketball finals, are, kneeling, from left, Julie Hazen, and Karen Caywood; and back row, from left, Diane Davis, Coach Ellen Penhorwood, Kathy Chachulski, Kathy Golm, Anita Punches, Berta Stankey, Kerry Kastner, Karen Smith, Jennifer Niemczyk, Sue Maher, Lauri Pawlowski, and manager Bonnie Guy.

—News & Gazette photo

Deaths

Nov. 5, 2025

EDWARD CARL SPARKS SR, 79, Casco Twp.

Nov. 27, 2025

BRUCE ALLEN MASSELINK, 82, Laketown Twp.

ALGIRDAS VILEISIS, 76, Saugatuck Twp.

Dec. 1, 2025

JAMES EARL MOON JR, 47, Leighton Twp.

Dec. 2, 2025

KATHLEEN MARIE HAINER, 70, Manlius Twp.

MARY ELLA DAVIS, 93, Fennville

Dec. 5, 2025

KAREN ELIZABETH MARTIN, 71, Clyde Twp.

JOYCE J SIMPSON, 93, Manlius Twp.

Dec. 9, 2025

JANET MARY COWELS, 100, Otsego Twp.

Marriages

The following people applied for a marriage license between Dec. 10 and Dec. 16:

JOSHUA ROBERT ICKES, Battle Creek, and **KARI ELIZABETH NORTHEY**, Plainwell

KATHERINE MARIE WRATHER, Wayland, and **AYVAH HELENMARIE HUTCHISON**, Wayland

DOUGLAS CARL BALLARD, Wayland, and **TAMMY ANN BASS**, Wyoming

JONATHAN MICHAEL BUTLER, Holland, and **RACHELLE MURIEL YEINGST**, Holland

JAY COREY RITCHIE, Otsego, and **HEATHER ELAINE ADRIANSON**, Otsego

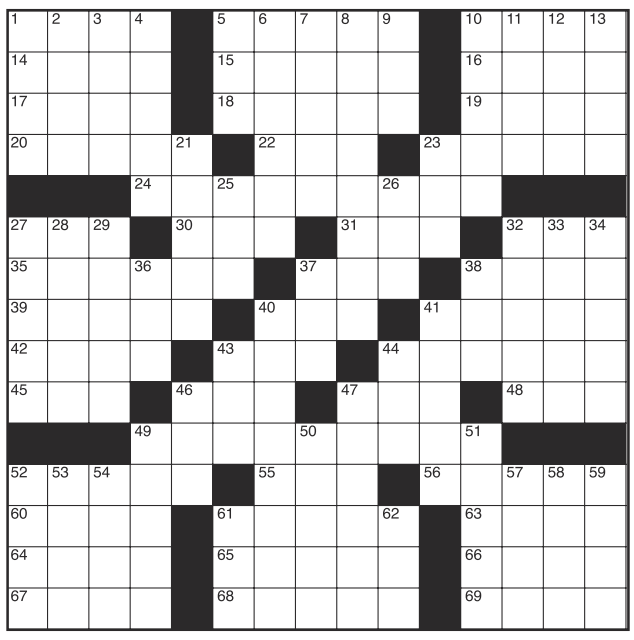
ELIZABETH ROSE LLOPIS, Holland, and **FRANK JOSEPH SCHAEFER IV**, Holland

BRITTIN COURTNEY HAMLIN, Plainwell, and **LUCAS ANTHONY WALDRON**, Plainwell

RYAN ALLEN WENTZEL, Allegan, and **CARLA JEAN BENSON**, Hamilton

JORDAN RAE GRACE, Plainwell, and **NATHAN ALLAN ZWAR**, Plainwell

Crossword



CLUES ACROSS

1. Light cavalry
5. Coconut palms
10. Rounded knob
14. Central Japan city
15. Sandwiches
16. Shape produced by a curve
17. Ancient region in modern-day Syria
18. French modernist painter
19. Grandmother
20. Mammary gland of cattle
22. Rocky peak
23. Secret plan
24. Songs to one's lover
27. More (Spanish)
30. Father
31. Chinese principle underlying the universe
32. Ballplayer's accessory
35. Together
37. A person's brother or sister
38. Evil spirit
39. Monetary units
40. Partner to cheese
41. About Sun
42. Group of like-minded people
43. After B
44. Seaside room
45. Recipe measurement
46. Partly digested food
47. Flat-faced dog
48. People of southern Africa
49. Salts
52. Beard lichens
55. Sanders is one
56. Fencing sword
60. Ethnic group of Albania
61. Metric weight unit
63. Italian seaport
64. Longtime late night host
65. Extremely angry
66. Miami mascot
67. Mid-month day
68. Marked for omission
69. Body part

CLUES DOWN

1. Two-toed sloth
2. Fat from a pig's abdomen
3. Romanian city
4. Specifies
5. Rounded, glaciated valley
6. Spoke
7. Collection of sacred books
8. Extravagantly theatrical
9. Very fast airplane
10. Forearm bones
11. Ancient kingdom
12. Legitimate: __ fide
13. Semitransparent gemstone
21. Counsels
23. Head honcho
25. Cool!
26. Touch lightly
27. Extract money via taxation
28. Dyes
29. Cloying sweetness
32. Sodas
33. Coastal village in Guam
34. Chemical ring
36. The bill in a restaurant
37. Car mechanics group
38. One-time presidential candidate Dole
40. Health care for the aged
41. Wise persons
43. Passage with access at one end
44. Make a wound
46. America's spies
47. Roof of the mouth
49. Plants of the lily family
50. Pinkish-red color
51. Vaccine developer
52. Mottled citrus fruit
53. A place to store garden tools
54. Rare goose native to Hawaii
57. Popular Hollywood pig
58. Musician Clapton
59. A move exposing one to danger
61. Historic Spanish soldier
62. CNN's founder

SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

2			5					
	1	3				7		
7		4						
	8			3	6			
							9	
6			7		4			2
4	5			2				
			6		7		1	5
								6

(See Solution Page B7)

■ see **Solution**, Page B7

Public Notices

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on January 15, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Chad Losiewski

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Freedom Mortgage Corporation

Date of Mortgage: October 7, 2022

Date of Mortgage Recording: October 17, 2022

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $154,106.59

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Charter Township of Gunplain, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing on the South line of Section 15, at a point 400 feet East of the Southwest corner of said Section 15 as point of beginning; thence East on said Section line, 104 feet; thence Northwesterly to the center of Gun Marsh Road at a point 504 feet Northeasterly of the Southwest corner of said Section; thence Southwesterly along the center of said road 104 feet; thence Southeasterly to point of beginning, Section 15, Town 1 North, Range 11 West, Gun Plain Township, Allegan County, Michigan.

Common street address (if any): 605 Marsh Rd, Plainwell, MI 49080-9541

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: December 4, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1579039

(12-04)(12-25)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the Circuit Court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, on January 15, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Jamison M Berg, An Unmarried Man Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Top Flite Financial, Inc., its successors and assigns. Foreclosing Assignee: PennyMac Loan Services, LLC Date of Mortgage: October 13, 2021 Date of Mortgage Recording: October 19, 2021 Amount claimed due on mortgage on the date of notice: $227,464.82 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in the City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, and are described as: Fifty feet in width off the East side of Lot 104, Original Plat of the Village (Now City) of Allegan, according to the recorded plat thereof. Commonly Known as: 347 Cutler St., Allegan, MI 49010 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention Purchaser: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee for any reason. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest, and the purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: 12/04/2025 Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 251 Diversion Street, Rochester, MI 48307 248-853-4400 321434

(12-04)(12-25)

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on JANUARY 15, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Adam Flagg and Amanda Flagg, to Figure Lending LLC, Mortgagee, dated July 13, 2024 and recorded July 22, 2024 in Liber 4959, Page 244 Allegan County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by FIGRE Trust 2024-HE6, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Twenty-Four Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty-One and 13/100 Dollars ($24,761.13).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan at 9:00 AM on JANUARY 15, 2026.

Said premises are located in the Township of Otsego, Allegan County Michigan, and are described as:

Commencing on the center line of River Road 740. 9 feet East of the East eighth line, thence South 74 degrees East 66 feet, thence South 132 feet, thence North 74 degrees West 66 feet, thence North 132 feet to the beginning, being in Section 23, Town 1 North, Range 12 West.

1416 106th Ave, Otsego, Michigan 49078

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: December 11, 2025

File No. 25-015345

Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC

Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084

Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400

(12-11)(01-01)

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on JANUARY 15, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Thomas Stille, an unmarried man, and Kathryn Garcia, an unmarried woman, joint tenancy with right of survivorship, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Hometown Lenders Inc., Mortgagee, dated September 13, 2022 and recorded September 21, 2022 in Liber 4799, Page 950 Allegan County Records, Michigan, and Affidavit Affecting Realty recorded October 23, 2025 in Liber 5080, Page 194 Allegan County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by DATA MORTGAGE INC., DBA ESSEX MORTGAGE, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Three Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-Seven and 43/100 Dollars ($322,867.43).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan at 9:00 AM on JANUARY 15, 2026.

Said premises are located in the Township of Salem, Allegan County Michigan, and are described as:

Part of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 7, Town 4 North, Range 13 West, Salem Township, Allegan County, Michigan, and being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the Northwest corner of said section 7; thence North 90 degrees 0 minutes 0 seconds East, along the North line of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 7, a distance of 1051.20 feet to the point of beginning of the parcel of land herein described; thence continue North 90 degrees 0 minutes 0 seconds East, along the North line of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 7, a distance of 397.70 feet; thence South 0 degrees 46 minutes 14 seconds East, a distance of 199.92 feet; thence South 90 degrees 0 minutes 0 seconds West, parallel with the North line of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 7, a distance of 191.00 feet; thence North 01 degrees 49 minutes 50 seconds West, parallel with the East line of the West 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 7, a distance of 39.25 feet; thence South 90 degrees 0 minutes 0 seconds West, parallel with the North line of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 7, a distance of 170.00 feet; thence North 01 degrees 49 minutes 50 seconds West, parallel with the East line of the West 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 7, a distance of 50.00 feet; thence South 90 degrees 0 minutes 0 seconds West, parallel with the North line of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 7, a distance of 33.00 feet; thence North 01 degrees 49 minutes 50 seconds West, parallel with the East line of the West 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 7, a distance of 110.75 feet to the point of beginning, Allegan County Records.

3556 146th Ave, Zeeland, Michigan 49464

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: December 11, 2025

File No. 25-011186

Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC

Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084

Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400

(12-11)(01-01)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on January 15, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Lewis James Folk, a widower

Original Mortgagee: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Flickinger Service LLC

Date of Mortgage: June 17, 2011

Date of Mortgage Recording: June 24, 2011

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $208,719.16

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: South 417 2/10 feet of East 208 7/10 feet of West 417 4/10 feet of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 26, Town 1 North, Range 12 West

Common street address (if any): 1491 102nd Ave, Plainwell, MI 49080-9703

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: December 11, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1579674

(12-11)(01-01)

FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, January 15, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Rickey L. Marcus Jr., Married Man to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Union Home Mortgage Corp., its successors and assigns, Mortgagee, dated June 29, 2016, and recorded on August 9, 2016, in Liber 4054, Page 442, Allegan County Records, said mortgage was assigned to Nationstar Mortgage LLC by an Assignment of Mortgage dated January 31, 2023 and recorded January 31, 2023 in Liber 4833, Page 151, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand Two Hundred Fourteen and 81/100 ($136,214.81) including interest at the rate of 3.37500% per annum.* Said premises are situated in the Township of Leighton, Allegan County, Michigan, and are described as: That part of the South 200.00 feet of the West 1/2 of the East 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4; Section 18, Town 4 North, Range 11 West, lying West of a line described as: Beginning on the South Section line 118.75 feet East of the Southwest corner of the West 20 acres of the West 1/2 of the East 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4; Thence North perpendicular to said South Section line to the North line of the South 200.00 feet of the said West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4. Commonly known as: 1065 142ND AVE, WAYLAND, MI 49348 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. *Modified by a loan modification dated October 22, 2021 and recorded November 4, 2021 at Liber 4692, Page 320, Allegan County Records. Dated: December 11, 2025 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Nationstar Mortgage LLC 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200 Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Case No. 25MI00505-2

(12-11)(01-01)

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9am, on Thursday, January 15, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. The foreclosure sale is pursuant to the terms and conditions of a Mortgage made by MOLLY MICHAEL and JAMES HATTEY, Mortgagors, to REI BlueKey, LLC, Mortgagee, dated July 19, 2024, and recorded July 30, 2024, in Liber 4961, Page 196, of Allegan County Records, Michigan, which mortgage was assigned to Cassidy Investment Group, LLC pursuant to a recorded assignment, and on which mortgage there is claimed to be due as of the date of this notice $70,645.32, including interest at 10.5% per annum. Said premises are situated in the City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, and are described as: Lots 4 and 14, Padgham Addition, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 6 of Plats, Page 15, Allegan County Records, c/k/a 207 Eastern Ave, Allegan, MI 49010. The redemption period shall be six months from the date of the sale, unless the premises are determined to be abandoned pursuant to MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be one month, or until the time to provide the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c) expires, whichever is later. The redemption period further may be shortened pursuant to MCL 600.3238(10) if the property is not adequately maintained, or if the purchaser is denied the opportunity to inspect the property. Please be advised that if the mortgaged property is sold at a foreclosure sale by advertisement, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale, or to the mortgage holder, for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Dated: December 18, 2025 Randall T. LeVasseur P41712 LeVasseur Dyer & Associates, PC Attorneys for Mortgagee 3233 Coolidge Hwy Berkley, MI 48072 (248) 236-1765

(12-18)(01-08)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on January 15, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Gerald J Madalinski II, An Unmarried Man

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Center, LLC

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): None

Date of Mortgage: August 11, 2017

Date of Mortgage Recording: August 18, 2017

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $96,054.18

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing at the Northwest corner of Allegan Village (now City) Lot 892, and running thence Southwest along the Northwesterly line of said Lot 892 continues, to the Northeasterly line of Marshall Street, thence Southeasterly along the Northeasterly line of Marshall Street 75 feet, thence Northeasterly parallel to the Northwesterly line of said Lot 892 to the Southwesterly line of Lot 896 and thence Northwesterly 75 feet to the place of beginning, in said Village (now City) of Allegan, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof.

Excepting and reserving from the above description, 37-1/2 feet heretofore deeded to Grover McAlpine, and as recorded in Liber 173 of Deeds, Page 445, described as follows, to-wit: Commencing at the Northwest corner of Lot 892 and running thence Southwest along the Northwesterly line of Lot 892 continues, to the Northeasterly line of Marshall Street, thence Southeast along the Northeasterly line of Marshall Street, 37.5 feet, thence Northeasterly parallel with the Northwesterly line to the Southwesterly line of Lot 897 and thence Northwesterly to the place of beginning.

Common street address (if any): 535 Marshall St, Allegan, MI 49010-1631

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: December 18, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1580054

(12-18)(01-08)

STATE OF MICHIGAN

PROBATE COURT

COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 25-65973-DE

Estate of Dennis H. Attar a/k/a Dennis Henry Attar, Deceased

Date of Birth: 02/24/1947

NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS: The decedent, Dennis Henry Attar, died on June 7, 2025.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Patricia Strunck, named personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut St. Allegan, MI 49010 and the named personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date:

Michael J. Becker (P81132)

Orton, Tooman, Hale, McKown & Kiel, P.C.

314 Trowbridge Street, P.O. Box 239

Allegan, MI 49010-0239

(269) 673-2136

Patricia Strunck, Personal Representative

6271 White Horse Lane.

Saugatuck, MI 49453

STATE OF MICHIGAN

48TH CIRCUIT COURT-FAMILY DIVISION

ALLEGAN COUNTY

PUBLICATION OF HEARING

Court Address: 113 Chestnut, Allegan, MI 49010

TO:ALLEGAN COUNTY NEWS

241 HUBBARD STREET

ALLEGAN, MI 49010

IN THE MATTER OF: KAY'TRAIL LEWIS

CASE NO. 23-67640-NA PETITION NO. I

A TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS HEARING will be conducted by the court on JANUARY 15, 2026 at 9:30 AM (ALL DAY) in 48TH CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY COURT HEARING ROOM A before REFEREE JUDITH KASSON. You have the right to an attorney and the right to a trial by a judge or jury.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that TURON LEWIS personally appear before the court at the time and place stated above. This hearing may result in the Termination of your parental rights. 113 Chestnut St. Allegan, MI 49010, Family Division.

Dated: 11/24/25

Judge Jolene A. Clearwater (P74848)

EGAN COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Trust

In the matter of the Delbert L. Tyink and Marlene A. Tyink Joint Trust established April 20, 1994

Marlene Alma Tyink was the surviving grantor of the Trust, and her date of birth was January 20, 1938.

TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Marlene Alma Tyink, died November 10, 2025.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the trust will be forever barred unless presented to Michael Allen Tyink, Trustee, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Thomas J. Hillegonds P74216

321 Settlers Road

Holland, MI 49423

616-392-1821

Michael Allen Tyink

3173 Hidden Lane Drive

Hamilton, MI 49419

269-377-9917

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the conditions of a certain Mortgage dated March 12, 2021, given by Douglas Glen Allan Jr., an individual, to Laketown Enterprises LLC, as Lender, recorded March 17, 2021 at Document #2021006394, Liber 4591 Page 551, of Allegan County Records, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due and unpaid as of March 12, 2025, for principal and interest, the sum of $71,047.49 (of which $7,700.00 is delinquent); no suit or proceeding at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the debt, or any part of the debt, secured by said Mortgage; the power of sale in said Mortgage having become operative by reason of such default; and the Lender having exercised and hereby exercising its right of acceleration as a result of the default;

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on January 15, 2026, at 09:00 AM at the front entrance of the Allegan County Courthouse, 113 Chestnut St., Allegan, MI 49010, that being the place for holding the Circuit Court for the County of Allegan, there will be offered for sale and sold to the highest bidder, at public sale, for the purpose of satisfying amounts due and unpaid under said Mortgage, together with legal costs and charges of sale, including attorney fees as provided by law and in said Mortgage, and any and all other lawful charges and expenditures from the date of this notice until said date of sale, the lands in said Mortgage known 1165 58th St, Pullman, MI 49450, and further described in Exhibit A attached hereto.

The redemption period shall be six months from the date of sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 16, 2025

CUNNINGHAM DALMAN, P.C. Attorneys for Laketown Enterprises, LLC

Parkel Hillegers

Rachel L. Hillegonds

321 Settlers Road Holland, MI 49423 (616) 392-1821

EXHIBIT A

Legal Description

The land is situated in the Township of Lee, Allegan County, State of Michigan, as follows:

(Continued on Page B7)

Public Notices

Continued from Page B6

Parcel 1:
Commencing at the Southwest corner of the North 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 5, Town 1 North, Range 15 West, Lee Township, Allegan County, Michigan; thence North 10 rods to the place of beginning; thence 10 rods North along the center of road; thence East 60 rods; thence South 10 rods; thence West 60 rods to the point of beginning.
Parcel 2:
Beginning on the West line of Section 5, Town 1 North, Range 15 West, Lee Township, Allegan County, Michigan, at a point 1056.00 feet South of the Northwest corner of the Section; thence South on the Section line, 40.66 feet; thence South 81 degrees 41 minutes 22 seconds East 232.87 feet; thence South 07 degrees 53 minutes 09 seconds West 165.26 feet; thence South 89 degrees 10 minutes 12 seconds East 782.23 feet; thence North, 235.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 10 minutes 12 seconds West 990.00 feet to the place of beginning.
EXCEPT beginning at a point found by commencing at the Northwest corner of Section 5, Town 1 North, Range 15 West, Lee Township, Allegan County, Michigan; thence South on the West Section line 1056.00 feet; thence South 89 degrees 10 minutes 12 seconds East 250.40 feet to the place of beginning of this description; thence continue South 89 degrees 10 minutes 12 seconds East 412.00 feet; thence South 103.88 feet; thence North 89 degrees 10 minutes 12 seconds West 248.49 feet; thence South 66 degrees 21 minutes 03 seconds West 45.16 feet; thence North 63 degrees 11 minutes 09 seconds West 136.84 feet; thence North 62.64 feet to the place of beginning.
ALSO DESCRIBED AS:
That parcel of land described as S 400' OF N 1456' OF W 990' OF NW 1/4 EX COM AT NW COR TH S 1056' TH E 250.40' TO POB TH CONT E 412' TH S 103.88' TH W 248.49' TH S 66 DEG 21' 03" W 45.16' TH N 63 DEG 11' 09" W 136.84' TH N 62.64' TO POB SEC 5 TIN RISW
Commonly Known As: 1165 58th St, Pullman MI 49450.
Tax Parcel ID: 03-12-005-009-50
12-18 1-8

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
FILE NO. N/A
In the matter of the Dorothy J. Meulendyk Declaration of Trust
Date of birth: 10/10/1926
TO ALL CREDITORS:*
NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
Tha decedent, Dorothy J. Meulendyk died 5/18/2025
There is no personal representative of the decedent's estate to whom Letters of Authority have been issued. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Trust will be forever barred unless presented to Mark Meulendyk and Pam Biertumpfel, Co-trustees of the Dorothy J. Meulendyk Declaration of Trust, under a Trust Agreement dated March 14, 2008, as amended, within 4 months of the date of publication of this notice.
Miller Johnson
Teresa L. Rajala P83305
100 W. Michigan Ave, #200
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
(269) 226-2950
Mark Meulendyk
2716 Parkwyn Drive
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49008
269-207-3336
Pamela Biertumpfel
19290 Lake Forest Drive
Penn Valley, CA 95946
530-913-3042

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, on February 5, 2026. The amount due on the Mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a Mortgage made by Jerry Lynn Crowe to Fifth Third Mortgage MI, LLC dated February 20, 2018 and recorded March 1, 2018 in Liber 4225 at Page 326, Allegan County, Michigan. Said Mortgage is now held by Fifth Third Bank, National Association by assignment and/or merger. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of $117,740.30. Said premises are located in Allegan County, Michigan and are described as: Land situated in the Township of Trowbridge, County of Allegan, State of MI described as follows Beginning at the East 1/4 post of Section 14, Town 1 North, Range 13 West, thence North 89º52'11" West on the East and West 1/4 line 1326 50 feet to the South 1/8 post of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 14, thence North 0º21'27" West on the North and South 1/8 line of the Northeast 1/4 375 02 feet, thence South 89º52'11" East parallel to the East and West 1/4 line 1326 96 feet to the Fast line of Section 14, thence South 0º17'13" East on the East section line 375 01 feet to the place of beginning Commonly known as 706 26th St, Allegan, MI Tax ID. 0321-014-001-10 Said property is commonly known as 706 26th St, Allegan, MI 49010. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Please be advised that any third party purchaser is responsible for preparing and recording the Sheriff's Deed. If this is a residential Mortgage, the following shall apply: ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the Mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. IF YOU: ARE A DEBTOR IN AN ACTIVE BANKRUPTCY CASE; ARE UNDER THE PROTECTION OF A BANKRUPTCY STAY; OR, HAVE RECEIVED A DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY AND YOU HAVE NOT REAFFIRMED THE DEBT, THIS NOTICE IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT FROM YOU PERSONALLY. Dated: December 19, 2025 Attorney for the party foreclosing the Mortgage: Thomas E. McDonald (P39312) Brock & Scott, PLLC 5431 Oleander Drive Wilmington, NC 28403 PHONE: (844) 856-6646 File No. 25-32470
(12-25)(01-15)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on February 5, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Ian Vanhorn, unmarried man
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Sailfish Servicing, LLC
Date of Mortgage: December 2, 2022
Date of Mortgage Recording: December 8, 2022
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $95,791.67
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: The South 165 feet of the North 693 feet of the West 40 feet of the East 780 feet of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4, Section 29, Town 2 North, Range 13 West, City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan.
Common street address (if any): 654 Vernon St, Allegan, MI 49010-1441
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: December 25, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1580820
(12-25)(01-15)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 2025-65967-DE and JUDGE Hon. Jolene A. Clearwater
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Stanley Leonard Whyment Date of Birth:*05/11/1949
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Stanley Leonard Whyment, died 04/11/2025.
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Beverly Whyment, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
12/15/2025
Noel K. Martzolff, Chalgian & Tripp Law Offices P88801
26211 Central Park Blvd. Suite 200
Southfield, MI 48076
(248) 799-2711
Beverly Whyment
c/o Chalgian & Tripp Law Offices
(248) 799-2711

ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC, MAY BE DEEMED A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450, Alpharetta, GA 30004 ph:470-321-7112 Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00 am on February 5, 2026 The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information: Name of the mortgagor: MARY JO MCGUCKEN. Default has been made in the conditions of a Mortgage made by MARY JO MCGUCKEN to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS MORTGAGEE, SOLELY AS NOMIINEE FOR NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A MR. COOPER, original Mortgagee, for a mortgage dated December 28, 2021, and recorded on January 10, 2022, in Liber 4718 Page 35 in the Allegan County Register of Deeds. Said Mortgage was then assigned through mesne assignments to SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVICING, INC. as documented by an assignment dated May 29, 2025, and recorded on June 05, 2025, in Liber 5039, Page 316 in the ALLEGAN County Register of Deeds, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of $68,570.50. Under the power of sale contained in said Mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the Circuit Court within ALLEGAN County, Michigan on February 5, 2026 at 9:00 am. Said premises are located in the city of ALLEGAN in ALLEGAN County, Michigan and are described as: THE CITY OF ALLEGAN, COUNTY OF ALLEGAN AND STATE OF MICHIGAN TO WIT: LOT 5, SAWYER & MCINTOSH'S ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE (NOW CITY) OF ALLEGAN, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN LIBER 3 OF PLATS, PAGE 1. BEING THAT PARCEL OF LAND CONVEYED TO MARY JO MCGUCKEN, SINGLE FROM LUCINDA H. THIELE A MARRIED WOMAN BY THAT DEED DATED 07/25/2014 IN LIBER 3856, PAGE 294, INSTRUMENT 2014013888, OF THE ALLEGAN COUNTY, MI PUBLIC REGISTRY. ACCORDING TO THE PUBLIC RECORDS, THERE HAS BEEN NO CONVEYANCE OF THE LAND WITHIN A PERIOD OF TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THIS REPORT, EXCEPT AS FOLLOWS: NONE Property Address: 223 NORTH ST. ALLEGAN MI, 49010 Tax ID No. 51-285-005-00 The redemption period shall be Six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If this property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the Mortgage sale or to the Mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVICING, INC., Mortgagee/Assignee January 1st, 2026 ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Attorney for Mortgagee/Assignee 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450 Alpharetta, GA 30004 Telephone: 470-321-7112 Facsimile: 404-393-1425 Service Email: MIFCLTeam@raslg.com
(01-01)(01-22)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on February 5, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Donnie Newman Jr., a married man
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Nationstar Mortgage LLC
Date of Mortgage: June 4, 2014
Date of Mortgage Recording: June 11, 2014
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $71,263.03
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Plainwell, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 30, Like's Addition to the City of Plainwell, Michigan, according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 5, Page 85.
Common street address (if any): 671 Melrose St, Plainwell, MI 49080-2206
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: December 25, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1580598
(12-25)(01-15)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Trust After Death
No Formal Probate
Trust Administration Unsupervised
In the Matter of Jonathan Hokse, Deceased
Date of Birth: October 9, 1932
and the Jonathan Hokse Trust dated July 26, 2016
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent Jonathan Hokse, who lived at 280 W. 40th Street, Holland, Michigan 49423, died on November 20, 2025. He is the settlor or grantor of a trust, the Jonathan Hokse Trust dated July 26, 2016.
Creditors of the decedent or the trust are notified that all claims against the decedent or the trust will be forever barred unless presented to Linda Hamelink at 3174 Rosco Drive, Hamilton, Michigan 49419, as trustee, or to the trust's attorney, James A. Donkersloot at 132 E. Main Avenue, P.O. Box 230, Zeeland, Michigan 49464, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
Donkersloot Law Office
December 16, 2025
James A. Donkersloot, P-30433
132 E. Main Avenue, P.O. Box 230
Zeeland, MI 49464
(616) 772-9000
Linda Hamelink, Trustee
3174 Rosco Drive
Hamilton, MI 49419
(616) 218-5741

ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS Trust
In the matter of the VanDyke Family Trust established March 26, 2014, restated March 2, 2021
Esther Mae VanDyke was the surviving grantor of the Trust and her date of birth was June 2, 1935.
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Esther Mae VanDyke, died February 9, 2025.
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the trust will be forever barred unless presented to Gordon VanDyke, Co-Trustee, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
Nicholas R. Dekker P70930
321 Settlers Road
Holland, MI 49423
616-392-1821
Gordon VanDyke
512 Huizenga Street
Zeeland, MI 49464
616-510-3426

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - ALLEGAN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on February 05, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Samantha A Markle, a single woman; Luke J Rice, a single man Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: January 12, 2024 Recorded on January 29, 2024, Liber 4917, on Page 208, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Two Hundred Thirteen Thousand Seventy-Six and 90/100 Dollars ($213,076.90) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: That part of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 22, Town 1 North, Range 12 West, described as: the Westerly 66 feet of the Southerly 165 feet of the Easterly 338.25 feet measured along the centerline of Allegan Street of that part of the West 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 lying North of center line of street, Section 22, Town 1 North, Range 12 West. Commonly known as 422 W Allegan St, Otsego, MI 49078 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400
1581049
(12-25)(01-15)

CLASSIFIEDS

Baseball Cards

Buying: Baseball cards, pre-1980, 269-625-2255. 12-18 1-8

KLC Storage Late Rent

Unit number C88 for non payment. Zack DeWitt. Tools and household stuff. KLC Self Storage. 12-25 1-1

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9	8	2	1	3	6	5	7	4
1	4	7	2	8	5	6	9	3
6	3	5	7	9	4	1	8	2
4	5	6	8	2	1	9	3	7
3	2	9	6	4	7	8	1	5
8	7	1	3	5	9	2	4	6

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Babylon Road, Allegan

RELIGION SECTION

By G C Stoppel

A long-time friend retired from parish ministry, did not believe the weather in Iowa was sufficiently cold in winter, and moved to Minnesota. She is now a part-time chaplain at a nursing home. This is a busy time for her and other chaplains because they are constantly having to change their plans when a group wants to come, often at the last minute, to the facility to entertain the residents. The administrators agree because they want to keep the residents fully invested in the holiday, and they don't want to turn any entertainer or group away because they might not offer to return the following year.

Meanwhile, my friend and others pivot and scramble to fit in another group, perhaps organize aides to help the residents into one of the activities rooms, and change their plans. The hope is that everyone will enjoy the entertainment or diversion, and the truth is that most of them really do like it.

Then, one afternoon, following the third 'show' of the day, one of the residents sighed to my friend, "Do you think we'll see any of them in January?" Always, trying to be positive and encouraging, she brightly said, "Well, I don't know, but I hope so."

The truth is that most entertainers and visitors do not return for many months. Once Christmas and New Years Day is over, they all might as well be Santa Claus making a hasty retreat to the peace and quiet of the North Pole.

Sad, isn't it?

And that is where you and I come in. We are very good at doing our part to 'make' Christmas for others, especially the elderly, the lonely, and those we called, "the shut-ins". We sent cards and wrote letters or made telephone calls. Then, by the time the tree was taken down at the decorations returned to their boxes, and the boxes exiled to the attic, we forget about them.

My friend and her co-workers dread the end of the year and the long months of winter. The halls have been stripped bare, there are no visitors, no singing groups, no entertainment. The residents feel the pain of loneliness and abandonment.

It's not just the residents are these facilities. A friend in the funeral business told me that January and early February are their busy months. Older people, those alone, those whose health has not been good for some time, just start to give up. Others, younger and seemingly more connected, are so depressed they choose to quit living.

Caring for people, being a friend, compassion and care, IS the work of those who profess their faith in Jesus. It is not seasonal, but year-round. Compassion, empathy and spending time with people who are so easily overlooked and forgotten is a task he has handed over to each of us.

Now might be a very good time to take a close look at the calendar for early January. Now is a good time to schedule for writing notes or making telephone calls to those who are older and often out of sight. It is a good time to plan to drop by to see them.

I think that is what Jesus would like us to do.

G C Stoppel
Priest Associate
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Allegan, MI

Directory of Area Churches

Allegan Assembly of God
424 DeLano St, Allegan
Pastors Tim Heath & Paul Hays
Church: 673-6577

Allegan Bible Church
412 S. Sherman, Allegan
Pastor Jon Gruss
Church: 673-6831

Allegan Christian Center
700 Ely St., Allegan
Paul Knuckles, Pastor
Church: 673-2921

Allegan County Jail
Chaplain Sarah Montgomery
Phone: 673-0350

Allegan United Methodist Church
Corner Walnut & Trowbridge streets, Allegan
Pastor Julia Humenik
Church: 673-4236;

At the Master's Feet
814 21st St., Otsego
269-694-6897
Paster Ray Brown

Blessed Sacrament Church
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan
Fr. Simon Manjooran
Church: 673-4455

Bloomingdale Bible Church
210 Chestnut at Pine NW
Bloomin gdale
Ofc. 269-427-2101

Bravo Community Church
5587 113th Ave., Fennville
Pastor Duane Terpstra
616-886-1214

Burnips United Methodist
4241 30th, Burnips
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
616-896-8410

Calvary Church of Wayland (IFCA)
304 S. Main Street, Wayland
Pastor Chad Peckham
ccwayland.org

Casco United Methodist Church
880 66th Street, South Haven
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
269-227-3328
www.cascoumc.org

Chicora Country Chapel
4399 108th Ave., Allegan
Pastor Herb Curry
Phone: 269-370-5834

Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave., Allegan
www.alleganccc.org ·
(269) 673-2329
Pastor Wally Coots

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
687 Linn Street, Allegan
Church: 673-9617

Church of God - Otsego
112 Kalamazoo St., Otsego
Pastor Stephen Burrow Sr.
269-694-9481
www.otsegocog.com

Corner Bible Church
4001 124th Allegan
www.cornerbiblechurch.com

CrossWind Community Church
1632 142nd Avenue
Dorr, MI 49323
616-359-9013
Pastor Tommy Boutell

Dunningville Reformed Church
2559 M-40, Allegan
Church: 751-5894
Pastor Eric Burrows-Stone
dunningville.org/index.html

East Martin Christian Reformed Church
510-118th Ave., Martin
269-672-5746
www.eastmartincrc.org

Epiphany Lutheran Church (LCMS)
4219 Parklane, Dorr
www.epiphanydorr.org
Sunday service at 9:15 a.m., Bible Study and Sunday School following

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
101 North Walnut St, Allegan
Office: 673-2254

Faith Baptist Church
2846 125th Ave., Allegan
John Looman, Pastor
673-5040 1-888-354-3272

Fennville Assembly of God
5897 124th Ave.
Fennville, MI 49408
269-561-2683

Fennville United Methodist Church
5849 124th St., Fennville
269-561-5048
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

First Presbyterian Church
200 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church: 673-4631
www.fpcallegan.org
10:00 service time.

First Baptist Church
1290 32nd St., Allegan
Service at 10:00am
Pastors Nathan Smith & Brendon Bayley
www.fbcallegan.com

First Baptist Church of Otsego
247 E Allegan St., Otsego
(269) 694-4160
firstbaptist@fbcotsego.org

First Church of God
1313 Marshall Street, Allegan
269 673-3881
www.pathtohim.org
Pastor, Tim Secord

First Congregational Church
323 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church Office: 673-3139
Pastor Todd Wagner

First Congregational Church
120 W. Morrell St., Otsego
269-694-6085
Pastor Lenny Luchetti

First Presbyterian Church of Plainwell
303 East Bridge St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
685-5990

Friendship Bible Church
104 Baker St., Hopkins, MI
Pastor Chris Cronk and Worship Pastor Tony Caldarona
Office 793-7929

Ganges Baptist Church
6577 122nd Avenue, Fennville
269-543-4203
11AM each Sunday

Ganges United Methodist Church
2218 68th St
Fennville MI 49408
Phone 269-543-3581
Lay Minister - Marcia A. Tucker

Grace Church of Hamilton
3690 Lincoln Rd. P.o. Box 97
Hamilton Mi 49419
269.264.4900
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

Hope Lutheran Church
290 12th St., Plainwell
(269) 685-1348
Pastor Nicole Smith
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

Hopkins Community Reformed Church
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins
(269) 793-7361
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins
(269) 793-7323
Pastor Kelsey French

Horseshoe Community Bible Church
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction
269-521-4580 ·
Pastor Don Miller

Immanuel Lutheran Church
631 Grand Street, Allegan
Church: 673-3335
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness
2199 Taft Road, Allegan
Phone: 673-6179

Living Waters Community Church
5458 M-89, Fennville
Service: 10:30 Sundays
Pastor Andrew Leach
269-561-5277

Martin Reformed Church
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks
672-5596

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor Margaret Stoken
269-672-7097
www.martinumc.org

Merson Church
3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI
Office: 673-5274
www.mersonchurch.org

Montage Ministries
"A Community in Worship"
Griswold Auditorium
Tuesdays 6:30-8:00pm

Monterey Center United Methodist Church
3022 130th Ave.
Monterey Center, 49328
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
793-7288

Mt. Calvary M.B. Church
5425 105th Ave., Pullman
Pastor Everett Belue
269-382-3405

New Hope Baptist Church
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)
Pastor Tadd Butler
673-1938

Northbridge Church
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo
269-385-4378 ·
www.northbridge.cc

Northpoint Ministries
04077 M40 (M40/CR390)
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199
Pastor Gary Lounsberry
Sunday Worship: 11am

OAKLAND CRC
4460 38th Street
Hamilton. Mi. 49419
616 688 5290
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

Otsego United Methodist Church
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reverend Dan Minor
Otsegomethodistchurch.org

Pathfinder North Church
(A Global Methodist Church)
532 M 89, Otsego, MI 49078
9:30 Fellowship 10:00 Worship
Rev Ron Hansen
Pathfindernorth.com

Peace Lutheran Church
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego
www.peaceotsego.com
694-6104

Pearl United Methodist Church
1689 56th St., Fennville
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

Pentecostal Church of God I.M
2281 57th St, Fennville
Wed/Miércoles @ 7:00 pm
Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am
Worship Service @ 11:00am
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959
Email: gytnj@yahoo.com

Plainwell Church of Christ
911 James St.
Plainwell, Michigan 49080

Plainwell First Baptist Church
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell
(269) 685-8888
Pastor George Osborn

Plainwell First United Methodist Church
200 Park St. Plainwell
269-685-5113
www.fumcplainwell.com

Rectify Church
247 N. Main St., Allegan
616-218-1556
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

Redemption Place Church of God
1900 M-40, Allegan
Pastor Deborah Lesher
Church: 269-355-1167

Refreshing Springs Ministries
201 Briggs St., Allegan
616-510-7416
Pastor Adrian Hall

River of Life Church
605 W. Allegan, Otsego
269-672-9904
www.alleganchurch.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
229 Cutler Street, Allegan
Dan Rachor, Pastor
Church: 673-3284

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville
672-7097 - Church office
Pastor Margaret Stoken

South Monterey United Methodist Church
Pastor Kelsey French
Church: 793-7323

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville
269-664-4345
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

Saint John's Church Of God In Christ
716 Academy St, Allegan
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 34th St., Allegan
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Margaret's Catholic Church
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego
269-694-6311

Third Coast Community Church
www.thirdcoastff.org |
269.857.5633
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Trowbridge Community Church
355 26th Street, Otsego
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor
Church: 673-5502

Unity Baptist Church
35 14 12th St. Wayland
Pastor Kelly Ryan
Cell # (269) 330-2217

Watson Bible Church
1626 116th St., Otsego
Pastor Tim Morris
672-2166

Wayland Community Church
502 West Superior, Wayland
(616) 877-6134
Worship Sunday @ 10:30am

UP Uni Pac "Contract Packaging Specialist" 809 Airway Dr. – Highland Industrial Park 269-673-8488

RAPA Rapa Electric, Inc. 1173 Lincoln Rd., Allegan 673-3155/673-3157

Waanders Concrete Co. Ready-Mix Concrete 3169 Babylon Rd., Allegan 673-6352

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Ted's Auto Body Shop, Inc 892 34th St., Allegan 269-673-2309 Fax: 269-686-8508 tedsab1@gmail.com

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